



MINUTES OF DISTRICT 69 COUNCIL MEETING

Held on **Sunday 29th April 2018**

George Hogg Auditorium, Ipswich Civic Centre
Corner Limestone & Nicholas Streets, Ipswich QLD 4305

Introduction

Mr Ian McLaren DTM on behalf of the District 69 Logistics Manager, Andrew Grayson ACB ALB, read the Mission of the District.

Ian then conducted the mace ceremony and handed the gavel over to the Chairman of the meeting District Director, Ben McCormick DTM.

Ben McCormick DTM declared the meeting open at 11:44 hrs.

Acknowledgments

District Director, **Ben McCormick DTM** acknowledged the following special guests in attendance:

International Director Region 12 David Fisher DTM, District 73 Director Christine Dimitros DTM, Club Growth Director D90 Udo Moerig CC, International Director Candidate Region 12 Marilyn Freeman DTM, International Director Candidate Region 12 David Templeman DTM,

District Director, **Ben McCormick DTM** then acknowledged the following past district leaders in attendance and thanked them for their service to the district:

Barrie Fuller DTM PRA, Marilyn Freeman DTM PDG, Ian Pinker DTM PDG, Coral McVean DTM PDG and Region 12 Adviser 2018/2019, Colin McFarlane DTM PDG, Christine Lennon DTM PDD Joe Abbott DTM IPDD, Heather Rhead DTM PDG,

Leaders of other districts were then acknowledged as follows: Paul Jensen DTM PDD.

Quorum

District Parliamentarian, Barrie Fuller DTM PRA, advised the meeting that there are currently 171 active clubs in D69, therefore 114 club votes are required to establish a quorum.

At today's meeting there are 174 club votes registered therefore a quorum was established.

The meeting also has 16 Area Director votes, 8 Division Director votes and a further 6 executive votes bringing total votes to 204 possible votes.

Apologies

District Administration Manager, John McLean read out the following received apologies:

Clare Murphy PID PDG, Sandra Simpson PDG, Di Riddell PDG, Vernon Flood PDG, Charlie Harrison PDG, Fran Kay PRM, Irene Jacobs A8D, Michelle Reid A19D, Richard Klysz A21D,



Apologies received from the floor:

Bernie Moffatt A1D, John Scouller PDG, Gabrielle Barsing A10D, Ricardo Bocanegra A26D, John Kay PDG, Marjory Hansen VPE Speak Easy Club, Estelle Dempster A12D, Andrew Pearson A33D, Mike Storkey DTM IPIP, Lesley Storkey DTM PDG, Jayaprasad Ramakrishna A44D, Monica Toisenegila PNGDivD,

Motion: 'That the apologies be accepted '

Moved Phillip Bate VPE Brisbane Central Club

Seconded Chris Parminter A3D

Motion Carried

Minutes of Previous Meeting

District Director Ben McCormick DTM, informed those present that the minutes from the previous Council Meeting dated **11th November 2017** had been circulated.

Amendments, corrections or additions necessary to the minutes were called for.

Corrections were noted as follows:

- 1) Marilyn Freeman's name is to be included on the Past District Governor list.
- 2) The spelling of Dianne Riddell's name is to be corrected.
- 3) Thomas Krafft's name is to be corrected in a couple of places and his DTM post nominals included.

Motion: 'That the minutes, as amended, be received as true and accurate record'.

Moved Christine Reghenzani NDD

Seconded John O'Sullivan President Speak Easy Club

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Minutes

Enquiry from Leonard Scuderi about the outcome of General Business Item 3/Action Sheet Item 3 - Changing banks for the district bank accounts.

Chairman Ben McCormick advised the outcome of the investigation is that the current banking institution will not be changed.

Correspondence Inwards and Outwards

District Administration Manager John McLean stated that there was no correspondence requiring immediate attention and that District inwards and outwards correspondence is currently stored electronically on a usb and is available for viewing on request.

Motion: 'That the inwards correspondence be received, and the outwards be endorsed'.

Moved Mitch Drage A6D

Seconded Marietta Wetzig A28D

Motion Carried



Business Arising from the Correspondence

Nil

Reports

Finance Manager's Report:

District Finance Manager Ian McLaren presented his report.

Motion: 'That the report of the Finance Manager be adopted'.

Moved: Ian McLaren District Finance Manager

Seconded: Simon Cornwill Central Div Dir

Motion Carried

Business Arising from the Finance Manager's Report

Discussion on the content of the report ensued.

Senior District Executive Officer Reports

Motion: 'That the reports of the senior District Executive Officers be received'.

Moved: The following Senior Executive officers moved that their reports be received:

District 69 Director	Ben McCormick DTM
Program Quality Director	Shane Cooper DTM
Club Growth Director	Alana Beale DTM
Public Relations Manager	Fran Kay DTM (moved by John McLean DTM)
Administration Manager	John McLean DTM

District Executive Officer and Other District Committee Reports:

Motion: 'That the reports of the following District Executive Officers/District Committees be received'

Moved: The following moved that their reports be received:

Logistics Manager	Andrew Grayson ACB ALB (Moved by Kevin Croft DTM)
Brisbane Division Director	Kevin Croft DTM
Central Division Director	Simon Cornwill DTM
Eastern Division Director	Thomas Krafft DTM
Moreton Division Director	Annette Mayfield ACG, ALB
Northern Division Director	Christine Reghenzani DTM
Southern Division Director	Gary Jardine DTM
Western Division Director	Warren Hayden ACS ALB



Past District Governors and Directors'
Advisory Committee
District Leadership Committee

Christine Lennon DTM
Joe Abbott DTM

Seconded Mitch Drage A6D
Motion Carried

District Director Ben McCormick explained that the reports would be attached as an Addendum to the minutes of this meeting.

Business Arising from the Reports

Nil

Motion: 'That the reports be adopted'.

Moved: Ally Hannon President Boyd Park club

Seconded: Christine Reghenzani NDD

Motion Carried

Special Presentation

By Candidates standing for Region 12 International Director

The following candidates were given an opportunity to speak in alphabetical order by surname for 5 mins.

- 1) Marilyn Freeman DTM
- 2) David Templeman DTM

Both candidates accepted the opportunity and addressed the meeting.

Lunch

Motion: 'That The meeting be suspended for lunch'.

Moved: Alana Beale CGD

Seconded: Shane Cooper PQD

Motion Carried

Meeting suspended

District Director, **Ben McCormick DTM** declared the meeting suspended at 12:27 hrs

Lunch Break



Meeting reconvened

District Director, **Ben McCormick DTM** declared the meeting reconvened at 13:10 hrs

Elections

Immediate Past District Director, **Joe Abbott DTM** conducted the elections for the positions of 2018/2019 District Executive.

Election Result:

Position	Candidate	Voting Result		
District Director	Shane Cooper	Elected		
Program Quality Director	Alana Beale	Elected		
Club Growth Director	Barbara Nielsen	Elected		
Brisbane Division Director	Jenny Bostock	Elected		
Central Division Director	Marietta Wetzig	Elected		
Eastern Division Director	Andrew Grayson	82	82	
	Rianne Luther	26		
	Kate Norris	94	119	Elected
Moreton Division Director	Rodney Luck	Elected		
Northern Division Director	Heather Bruce	Elected		
PNG Division Director	Jayaprasad Ramakrishna	Elected		
Southern Division Director	Yvonne Selleck	Elected		
Western Division Director	Carolyn Becker	107		Elected
	Kevin Sherry	92		

Awards:

Control of the meeting was handed to Program Quality Director Shane Cooper PQD while District Director Ben McCormick and Club Growth Director Alana Beale presented District Awards as follows:

40 years in Toastmasters – Annette Thompson
DTM – John Reghenzani

Bids for 2020 District Conference

Bids to host the 2020 District Conference were presented to the meeting by representatives from Leading Edge Toastmasters Club and Mercury’s Motivators Toastmasters Club.



Bid Result:

Bid No.	Club	Voting Result	
1	Leading Edge Toastmasters Club		
2	Mercury's Motivators Toastmasters Club	Majority	Successful

General Business

Item No. 1 The number of clubs to allowed to contest at Area Level

Refer: Action Sheet Item 4 from the Minutes of the previous District Council Meeting,

Motion: 'That clubs in Areas with four (4) clubs or fewer may send two (2) contestants for each contest to the Area Contests'.

Moved: Shane Cooper PQD

Seconded: Ian Pinker PGD

Motion Carried: (secret ballot voting result: 121 votes for, 71 votes against, 2 invalid)

Item No.2 Repositioning of Leaders By Design Toastmasters Club

Refer: Action Sheet Item 5 from the Minutes of the previous District Council Meeting,

Motion: 'That Leaders By Design Toastmasters Club be moved from Moreton Division to Southern Division Area 23'.

Moved: Simon Cornwill CDD

Seconded: Annette Mayfield MDD

Motion Carried

Any Other Business

Nil

Next District Council Meeting

To be advised

Meeting Closed by District Director Ben McCormick DTM at 15:20 hrs



I confirm that these minutes are a true and correct record.

.....
CHAIRMAN

Benjamin McCormick DTM
District Director

.....
SECRETARY

John McLean DTM
District Administration Manager

COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD

<i>Top Table</i>			
District Director	Ben McCormick	DTM	Attended
Program Quality Director	Shane Cooper	DTM	Attended
Club Growth Director	Alana Beale	DTM	Attended
Administration Manager	John McLean	DTM	Attended
Finance Manager	Ian McLaren	DTM	Attended
IPDD	Joe Abbott	DTM	Attended
<i>Division Directors</i>			
Brisbane	Kevin Croft	DTM	Attended
Central	Simon Cornwill	DTM	Attended
Eastern	Thomas Krafft	DTM	Attended
Moreton	Annette Mayfield	ACG/ALB	Attended
Northern	Christine Reghenzani	DTM	Attended
Southern	Garry Jardine	DTM	Attended
Western	Warren Hayden	ACS/ALB	Attended
<i>Area Directors</i>			
Area 2	Heather Bruce	ACS/ALB	Attended
Area 3	Chris Parminter	DTM	Attended
Area 4	Melanie Wood	CC/ALB	Attended
Area 5	Jenny Bostock	ACS/CL	Attended
Area 6	Mitchell Drage	CC/CL	Attended
Area 7	Kate Norris	ACS/ALB	Attended
Area 11	Jeanette Hayden	ACB/ALB	Attended
Area 16	Mathew Bridges	CC	Attended
Area 20	Rianne Luther	ACG/ALB	Attended
Area 22	Tracey Head	ACG/ALB	Attended
Area 27	Lisa Eicholz	CC/CL	Attended
Area 28	Marietta Wetzig	ACG/ALB	Attended
Area 29	Carolyn Becker	ACG/ALB	Attended
Area 31	Joe Abbott	DTM	Attended
Area 37	Paul McCullough	ACB/CL	Attended
Area 42	Sarah Lawson	CC	Attended



COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD Cont'd

<i>Clubs</i>			
80 George Goalsetters	x2	Innisfail	x2
1WS	x2	Ipswich	x2
ACS	x2	Jacaranda 2000	x2
Adventurers	x2	Kawana Waters	x2
Algester	x2	Kenmore	x1
Alpha-Endeavour	x2	Kepple Bay	x2
Boyd Park	x2	Kilcoy	x2
Brisbane Central	X1	King's	x2
Brisbane Speakers	x2	Komunity	x2
Brisbane Sunrise Speak	x2	Leaders By Design	x2
Bunya	x2	Leading Edge	x2
Burdekin	x2	Limestone	x2
Business Focus	x2	Lockyer Valley	x1
Caboolture	x2	Logan	x2
Caloundra	x2	Magnetic North	X1
Capalaba	x2	Mercury's Motivators	x2
Carina	x2	Morning Talkers	x2
Centenary	x2	Mt Gravatt	x2
Chermside Communicators	x1	Nambour	x2
City Midday	x1	Narangba Valley	x2
City of Ipswich	x2	Nerang	x2
Clayfield	x2	Northern Nomads	x1
Compass	x2	Palm Beach-Currumbin	x2
Cooloola Coast	x2	Peninsula	x2
Coolum Communicators	x2	Pines	x2
Country Chatters	x2	Port Moresby OSL	x2
Crest	x2	QUU	x2
Daisy Hill	x2	Redlands	x2
Dalby	x2	Robina	x2
Darling Downs	x2	Sandgate	x2
DC	x1	Serendipity	x2
Down Under	x2	South Burnett	x2
Elanora Early Morning	x1	Southbank	x2
Forex	x2	Southern Cross	x2
Glasshouse Country	x2	Southport	x2
Healthy Chatters	x2	Speak Easy	x2
Heart of the City	x2	Springfield Lakes	x1
Helensvale Daybreak	x2	Stafford Heights	x2
Hervey Bay	x2	Sunnybank	x2
Highfields	x2	Talk of the North	x1
Icon	x2	Talk of the South	x2



COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE RECORD Cont'd:

<i>Clubs</i>			
Top Table	x2	USC Speakers	x2
Townsville	x2	Warwick	x2
TT	x2	Westgate	x1
Tweed Valley	x2	Yandina	x2
Twin Towns	x2	Young Achievers @ QUT	x2
Upper Mt Gravatt	x2	Dalby	x2



ADDENDUM No.1

REPORTS

REPORT OF THE DISTRICT DIRECTOR

2017/18 has been a year of learnings for District 69. This year we have had the largest group of first time Area Directors come through and gain insights and skills in how districts are operated.

Many of the Area and Division Directors have also experienced being in team and business leader positions for the first time without risking their income. I hope this has helped them discover if these types of roles are something they want to investigate professionally or not.

The District Finance Manager has done a fantastic job this year tidying up the bank accounts and the financial reporting. It has been of great interest to see the changes in the districts position through the months and to have the detailed analysis of them. By sharing his knowledge and reporting with Program Quality Director and Club Growth Director this year I am sure they will be in an excellent position to start next year.

The Pathways Rollout in District 69 has been a world leader and Full Credit must go to mark Snow and the Pathways' Guides and Ambassadors who have so diligently spread the message. The process designed here by mark and his team have now been used across the world to finalise the remaining rollouts. This is a fantastic example of the talent that resides in our District.

The Public Relations Manager has done a wonderful job using social media to engage with our members this year. Fran has shared stories of success, events and information to improve our club experience.

The District Administration Manager has done an excellent job preparing the minutes and looking after the paperwork of the District. I would personally like to thank John for greatly reducing the amount of e-waste from previous years. John being a two-hour flight away has not had any impacts on his ability to perform his roll and I hope this serves as an example of remote team work in Toastmasters.

For the trio this year I hope to combine IPDD Joe's example of collective decision making with my own concept of greater autonomy for the other directors. This turned out to be a success and failure in equal measure with some Directors thriving while others didn't. I do feel that from last year to this year and next the handover process and awareness of what the other Trio members' roles are has increased enormously. I firmly believe this reduction in demarcation and secretiveness will enhance the district in future years.

To Mike and Lesley Storkey, thank you for investing your time and effort mentoring the Trio this year. It has been a year of great change for how the District works internally and I know your elected representatives next year will continue to push for improvement in how we meet the District Mission. Thank you to everyone who has supported their fellow members this year.

Ben McCormick
District Director.



REPORT OF THE PROGRAM QUALITY DIRECTOR

As we approach the final quarter for the year it is time to ensure we maintain the momentum with our education and membership drives. Each club executive should be encouraging members to renew their membership if they haven't already done so. It is also time to think about the next step in your Toastmasters journey and step up to the challenge of a club or district leadership role.

The district has completed all the club, area, and division conferences and competitions for the year with the Northern Division Conference being conducted over the weekend. This year the TRIO set a goal of ensuring two of the TRIO would attend every division conference and I am happy to report that we achieved this goal. Despite our heavy workloads, in some cases all three of us were available to attend a division conference.

Over all the standard of the competitors in the district is quite high but we need to work on the structure of our conferences to ensure we cover the requirements of all the members. On a few occasions, we witnessed contest chairs getting off script and taking too much time to complete their projects. This resulted in conferences running overtime. The District Director (Ben McCormick) has arranged for new scripts to be produced for all the contest chairs to bring them up to date. This should ensure each contest is about the contestants and not about the contest chairs.

I want to thank all the contest judges for giving up their time to judge at competitions across the district. The district will continue to run judges training workshops as the standard of judging has improved. There is always room for improvement in any process and we will continue to develop strategies to mentor members wanting to become judges in the future. It is our intention to have several judges at district this year so the same judges do not have to judge every competition. If you are called upon to be a judge at district level please treat this as honour to serve the members and not a chore.

So far, this year the members of District 69 have achieved 543 education awards and 34 members have earned triple crowns. This is a credit to the clubs that support members in their quest for continuous growth. With the introduction of Pathways, the Vice President Education (VPE) of each club will really have to keep an eye on education awards to ensure these achievements are recognised and recorded at club level.

The focus point for the district officers, division directors, area directors and club executives for the remainder of the year is to assist the members getting their club distinguished. There are already over 50 clubs close to achieving this goal, depending on renewals. Clubs executives should be checking the dashboard to see how close they are to achieving distinguished status and assisting members where possible to contribute to this outcome. If we have done everything we can possibly do to support our members within their clubs we will leave the district in a better place at the end of the year.

I want to thank all members of the district for the support I have received in this role this year. If we all support the members in our clubs and encourage members to take on a new challenge, like becoming a speech competitor, achieving the next education award or taking on a leadership role, we can all contribute to society and make ourselves and our world a better place.

Shane M Cooper DTM, PQD 2017/2018



REPORT OF THE CLUB GROWTH DIRECTOR

Where to begin? With the good news of course!

New Clubs - District 69

BPNG Toastmasters Club – Port Moresby

1WS Toastmasters – Brisbane

Coral Seas Toastmasters Club – Port Moresby

Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu PNG – Port Moresby

Magnetic North – Townsville

District 69 currently has a number of prospective clubs working towards chartering before June 30. We wish them every success with attaining charter strength and I am looking forward to attending the club charter ceremonies in the 'not too distant future'.

When we lose a club it's a tough time for all involved. Unfortunately for some clubs it's the only option left as they have reached the end of club sustainability. This year we bade farewell to Mareeba Toastmasters, Whitsunday Toastmasters and Islander Communicators Club. May the memories that you gathered along the way be sweet and the friends that you made in club be friends for life.

When a club is struggling, and the membership is shrinking, who are you going to call?

My suggestion would be a Club Coach. Before you put the matter off until another time let's explore the idea. If the club has at least one member and no more than twelve members the club is eligible for up to two coaches to assist the club recover. That's 'two' additional people to help get the club back on track.

Club Coach Program Flyer link:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/b94bb90c205746d18d76480e29babadc.ashx>

How to Rebuild a Toastmasters Club

<https://www.toastmasters.org/~media/77a8fda83fc24c489129ceab9ac49d35.ashx>

Presently in District 69 there are twenty clubs with coaches appointed. Three of these clubs have already achieved Distinguished or better. What concerns me the most is that there are 34 clubs eligible for Club Coaches that should be taking up the option to start rebuilding their club. If your club is on the struggle bus, it's time to have a change of heart and seek a club Coach. Contact our Chief Club Coach Ian Pinker if you would like to explore this option further.

Email - ianpinker21@bigpond.com

As of the 27th March, 2018, Toastmasters International statistics show that we have had 829 new member payments this Toastmaster year. With the introduction of the Pathways learning experience I have had feedback from the field indicating that some members are taking this opportunity to take a backward step and either reduce their memberships with multiple clubs or gracefully bow out of Toastmasters altogether.

Toastmasters, this will be a sad time in the history of District 69 should long standing members with many years of experience, wisdom and connections leave our organization. I would ask that our leaders address this at the club level by encouraging our long standing Toastmasters to remain focused on club quality and enhancing the experience for the members. How? By engaging in something new and exciting, the new Pathway learning experience. After all isn't it new for almost everyone in District 69. They may also like to continue mentoring and coaching our new members in the ways of Toastmasters. As I write this report there are still a few days of March, 2018 to go. At this point we are short 2,184 membership payments. May I remind our club leaders that the submission of membership dues for the club members is top priority! Should your members have paid their dues please ensure that they are remitted to Toastmasters International in a timely fashion.



We certainly don't want to have to disqualify a contestant or contest official on the basis of not being 'a member in good standing of a club in good standing'.

Quite often I hear, "Toastmasters is the best kept secret". I would have to agree.

With this in mind we decided to lift Toastmasters brand awareness by taking a billboard in Central Station, Brisbane City. The campaign will run from late February to mid June 2018. We are hopeful that this will lift Toastmasters brand awareness in Brisbane. Central Station is a hub for the city and during the campaign it is estimated that our billboard will create over two million impressions. Brisbane City has huge potential for growth and will be an area of focus over the next couple of years.

Some more good news to finish with!

It gives me great pleasure to announce that the launch of the 'all new' District 69 Website will be at the District 69 Conference, 28-29th April, 2018. Looking forward to seeing you there!

Alana Beale, DTM

Club Growth Director



REPORT OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS MANAGER

As we come towards the end of the Toastmasters year I thank all of the Vice President Public Relations across the district. They have worked hard all year promoting their clubs in their areas. We appreciate they time and energy you have put into your role promoting Toastmasters. Without you it would be impossible to cover our District effectively.

It has been an interesting year as I have been coming to terms with this role.

The role of the Public Relations Manager is huge and it is not possible for one person to do it effectively. I believe that there needs to be a team of people with the PRM as the Manager to make this role work across the district.

I have been able to work with the District 69 Face book page as social media is the way to go in these modern times. Over the year we have increased the number of “likes” of our page and also the “reach” has increased so more people are looking at our page.

I have also encouraged clubs to post and share ideas there as well as using it for promotional purposes. I have not developed Instagram or begun a blog.

I have recently sent an email to all VPPR’s encouraging them to take part in the Newsletter and Website competitions as well as sending in a club photo to take part in the Virtual Banner Parade for the District 69 Conference.

We have one more Toastmasters International promotional opportunity for the year. Beat the Clock runs over May and June. It is the final for our year and I encourage all clubs to continue to promote Toastmasters wherever they are able and to sign up new members regularly.

Fran Kay DTM

Public Relations Manager D69

2017/18



REPORT OF THE ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

What a year it's been so far with its' many challenges and changes to deal with. But then that is what leaders deal with every day.

As you will have seen, the district communicates with clubs and with members using emails, the D69 website, on line event booking pages and social media posts. These are now the norm for keeping members informed, updated and connected.

For me, these methods have helped make the secretariat role more streamlined and time-saving. (Not having to write out and use Australia Post for day to day communication is real progress)

I would like to express my gratitude to the District Leadership team of Ben, Shane and Alana for giving me the opportunity to serve the team, the District and the Toastmasters community.

The highlight of my stewarding in the District Administration role this year has having been able to observe, interact with and communicate with the many leaders at all levels of the District 69 Toastmasters community.

I have witnessed these leaders grow and develop as they communicate with, connect with and care for the members of the Toastmasters organisation that they have chosen to represent.

With a little over 2 months to go this Toastmastering year I am eagerly looking forward to seeing all leaders finish strong!

John McLean DTM
District Administration Manager
28/04/2018



REPORT OF THE FINANCE MANAGER

When I accepted the role as District Finance Manager last April, anyone who knew me and had anything to do with that role previously, said that I was crazy, however my predecessor assured me that as an accountant, if I was methodical, it was not such a difficult task, and he was right.

Those who attended the Semi Annual Conference last November will know that the only report that I presented was one listing the bank balances of each of the twelve accounts in the D69 portfolio; hardly an impressive start.

Last December, immediately before Christmas I finally obtained full access to our bank accounts and the D69 budget was approved by WHQ. At last I could start doing accounting. I had previously only processed expense transactions to the banks.

Before having access to the US accounting system "Intacct", I had to sit through video learning and pass tests, however as this was in April or May 2017, by December I had forgotten it all. Thanks to my guide just over the NSW border who had been District Finance Manager for D70 and D90, I got on the right track and completed all six months ready for audit by the middle of January, a task taking 10 hours a day, seven days a week. Thanks Jan from the bottom of my heart.

WHQ approved the resulting financials and I thank auditors Don Crombie and Ian Gillespie for taking on the audit role once more and working under extreme pressure to submit the audit report to WHQ by 15 February, the dead line. I express mailed the original documents to WHQ by 15 February where they arrived the next week. (As Ian commented, we did not get onto the late list).

A copy of the audit report and financial statements for Quarter 2 are following this report. Financial Statements for 31 March will be provided at the conference but not enclosed here.

For those interested in the accounting process, my first major task was to ensure that each Division started with the traditional advance loan of \$3,000 and each Area with \$1,000. This was done in August. We also set up a new account with WBC for Moreton Division as well as with Intacct in the US. Intacct is unable to change the account names, so Brisbane will stay as Metro as far as WHQ are concerned and it seems that WBC has been unable to change the name either.

I am proud to say that I have attended to all claims coming across my desk and these were generally paid within or 3 days. In March, I transferred all Area loans back to District, as the Trio considered that as all Area conferences were now complete, there was no necessity for the advanced loans to be retained in the Division accounts.

It is interesting to note that whilst all Area conferences are complete, many Area Directors have not provided a reconciliation of their conference financial activities and some have still not banked any proceeds. This should have been done immediately following the conferences, not held in club or personal accounts.

I have suggested to the Trio that the role of Finance Manager should for efficiency be a two year role: one year to learn to tricks of the trade and the second year to train the successor. Prior to Christmas I was deeply troubled with the role and expectations over which I had no control, but since January, I have come to really enjoy the role of Finance manager and thank DD Ben for offering me the chance to expand my experiences. I could write a book on them.

Ian McLaren DTM, District 69 Finance Manager 2017-18



REPORT OF THE LOGISTICS MANAGER

I am pleased to report that all equipment is still in existence and in the same condition as it was on 1st of July, 2017.

In addition to carrying equipment for, and opening, the district council meeting, the Logistics Manager is responsible for ensuring district officer training runs smoothly. This involves:

1. Liaising with the catering staff to ensure there are no issues in the kitchen;
2. Liaising with the Program Quality Director to discuss how to manage any variances between the time allocated for each presentation as per the agenda and the time each presenter actually required; and,
3. Managing the breaks to ensure district officers and guests are ready to reconvene at the due time.

To do this role well, both diplomacy and firm time management skills are required to address any issues, sensitively. This role offers significant learning opportunities for anyone who struggles with procrastination, being too nice or being too direct in their communication. This role offers significant networking opportunities with passionate district officers. I urge anyone who recognises this benefit to approach the District Director or District Director-elect. It's like the club's Sergeant at Arms on steroids.

My Personal Experience:

The confidence I have gained from taking on this role is beyond what I anticipated. By always having one finger on the pulse and one eye on the clock, I have learned to recognise the necessity to interrupt when required; an action I had previously interpreted as rude in all circumstances. I laugh about in hindsight, that I was scared to bang the gavel because I did not want to interrupt conversations.

Yours in Toastmasters,

Andrew Grayson, ACB ALB

Logistics Manager, District 69, 2017-2018

**REPORT OF THE BRISBANE DIVISION DIRECTOR as at 23/3/2018**

As one of the brand-new Divisions in District 69, it is my pleasure to present this report to the members. We have the highest concentration of clubs in the smallest geographic area of District 69's 8 Divisions, so that brings different challenges and opportunities compared to other Divisions.

For instance, many clubs only have a total of 2 hours of meeting time per month (2 x 1 hr lunchtime meetings), so that's less time than many other clubs have per meeting as the average elsewhere in the District. Therefore, there is less time inside regular club meetings for speeches, and certainly for longer speeches, which are sometimes required for the higher-level education awards.

Despite that time limitation, Brisbane Division has excelled in the number of education awards achieved so far this year. It is difficult to assess "good" or "bad" results in a new Division, but comparisons in this report are either in relation to the exact same clubs last year when they were in other Divisions, or in relation to other Divisions this year.

The first few months saw 26 Education Awards, compared to 19 from the same clubs at the same time last year. The Division currently has 68 education awards, including 18 on the new Pathways. Several people have already qualified for Triple Crown this year, even though there are still more than 3 months remaining in the year.

A highlight is that fact that 2 clubs are in the TI official list of District 69's "Top 10 clubs with highest education awards per July 1st Base Membership", including the top club for District 69, Forex, as well as QUT at number 10.

Overall, the year started with 25 clubs in good standing, and is likely to finish the year with either 27 or 28 paid clubs, with only 26 being necessary to qualify for a President's Distinguished Division. That number takes into account the fact that we will soon unfortunately lose 1 club. Almost all clubs that require a Club Coach currently have one either allocated or in the process of having this finalised.

On the positive side, 1 new club (1WS) has already chartered, another (DHS Brisbane) has obtained their 20th member to charter later this month (March), with another 1 or 2 strong probabilities of clubs chartering within this Toastmasters year. I do have to congratulate Mark Snow DTM for his 1 William Street Project, and a team of dedicated Toastmasters, including Asst Division Director – Club Growth, David Pedler DTM, and Richard Dudaniec DTM, Corporate Clubs Chairman, for the great progress they are making with new clubs. David Pedler DTM has also had success with the Meetup online marketing tool, to which several "open" clubs have now subscribed, including 2 located near the boundary lines with Moreton and Eastern Divisions respectively.

Almost all official Area Director visits are completed, with several additional "non-official" visits also made. Entry to the TI website is continuing, with the last few details coming from clubs before completion. Of the 3 clubs that did not receive an official visit in Round 1, 2 have received either an official or unofficial visit since then.

The biggest single challenge for the year was the ill health of 3 of the 6 Area Directors. Fortunately, two of them are feeling much better in the second half of the year. Unfortunately, AD17, John Howard, spent several months between hospitals and rehabilitation, and has now permanently moved to a nursing home, where he is still bright and alert, but no longer able to enjoy attending any external meetings, such as Toastmasters. We wish him all the best.

Fifteen clubs attended Club Leader Training with at least 4 or more officers for each of the two Rounds of training. That is thirteen that achieved this for both, giving them a goal towards their Distinguished Club Program status.

The inaugural Brisbane Division Conference was carried off successfully over two nights, with 14 different Toastmasters filling the 19 contestant roles, showing the diversity of the talent spread



throughout the Division. Congratulations to our eventual winners, and we wish them all the best at District level.

Some other Brisbane Division highlights have included successful Social Networking events. One evening had a District 69 Champion as the guest speaker. We also have several more events planned as a Division between April and June, including 2 very likely to have guest speakers from outside District 69. One plan is to have overseas Toastmasters guest, whilst the other is a distinguished non-Toastmaster from Brisbane with many years of experience in both corporate and volunteer organisations. We look forward to confirming both of those events very soon. We note that every Brisbane Division event throughout the year, including training, conferences, networking and guest-speaker nights, except for one, has been provided totally free of charge to all members.

108 new members have joined as of a short time ago (2nd highest in District 69). If we can gain the same success with DCP goals as with club growth, then Brisbane Division will finish as President's Distinguished Division with some Distinguished, Select Distinguished, or President's Distinguished Areas as well. There are many positives to look forward to in Brisbane Division.

Kevin Croft DTM

Brisbane Division Director 2017-2018



REPORT OF THE CENTRAL DIVISION DIRECTOR

Central Division has had a wonderful year.

We started the year with a bang with the Executive Leadership Weekend. We had 75 members attend this jam packed weekend. It was a great time of training and team building.

The Area Directors were trained by the District several times throughout the year. These training weekends were attended well by all. Central Division is expansive and it was great to see the Area Directors so dedicated to their roles.

The Area conferences were all held in September and October. The quality of the conferences were second to none. Each of the conferences had their own flavour but they all showed the quality of the members of Central Division.

In March we held the Central Division Conference at the Sunshine Castle. This was extremely well attended and many members dressed in medieval garb for the evening events. We even had some smart cookies who dressed a bit differently than the others with a play on the theme. A great time shared by all.

We had 8 Club Officer Training days over the year. As Central Division is so large geographically, we were determined to train as many officers who were willing to be trained. As a result of this we trained 130 officers first round and retrained 120 second round. This has been a great increase but there is still plenty of room to improve.

Training hasn't finished however. We will be working right up to June 30th. The Division is set to hold the Speaker to trainer workshop on June 2nd.

Over the course of the year we said goodbye to two clubs. Cooroy decided to hand their charter back in September. A team of Toastmasters decided to take over the charter. They moved and renamed the club to Yandina Toastmasters. In six short months they worked with the local community and have gone from 3 to 17 members. They will finish the year with charter strength membership and Presidents Distinguished status. Maleny decided to hand their charter back in March. It was sad to see them fold. Out of the ashes a new club in Area 22 is in formation. The Comedy Club is set to charter any day. A special mention to Sunshine Coast Toastmasters and Noosa Toastmasters who both have grown back into strong vibrant clubs. The Yeppoon club has rebranded as Keppel Bay and has been doing some amazing things. All the clubs of Central Division have proved again that they are strong.

I have had a wonderful time as Central Division Director and the team supporting me during the past 12 months have played a pivotal role in our success.

Central rocks!

Simon Cornwill DTM

Central Division Director



REPORT OF THE EASTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR

In my time as a Toastmaster I have always attended Division level conferences and club officer training, and been amazed that any person could put together such a large event. I believed that it was well beyond the scope of ordinary me. And yet, since my early years as a member I have placed a keen eye on every event and always asked 'what if it was me?'. This year I have found myself surrounded by enthusiastic, experienced and energetic people who are willing not only to help, but to see us succeed. It is genuinely surprising on this side of the fence looking back and seeing just how possible any task within Toastmasters is with a bit of persistence and commitment.

A big realisation has been a particular highlight this year. I remember looking at COT presenters and wondering how experienced and lucky they must be to present a session at a training day. I learned this year there are keen members, willing to help, just like I was years ago and all you need to do is just ask. Not once did someone I ask to present at Club Officer Training (COT) say no. And over 50% of our trainers had never presented at COT before. The feedback was overwhelmingly positive and we have sparked passion, discussion and enthusiasm like we have never seen before. How exciting to see alternatives to 'the way we've always done it' being so freely and genuinely offered at these opportunities. All by offering a hand up to people with new ideas who just needed to be given the permission that a select few have had the privilege of previously.

I am proud of the work we have done in Eastern Division this year. Two afternoons of Club Officer Training, six area conferences (A7, A20, A26, A27, A33 and A37) and the Eastern Division Conference (EDCon) were each held at the lowest cost possible – indeed, attending ALL of them would have cost only \$13 for the year. Five of those area conferences were completely free to walk through the door, both COT and one area conference only a gold coin each and EDCon \$10 per person. Additionally, all of these events were scheduled to take six hours or less, respecting members' time and making them more accessible to each of us. Providing the tools to the team where a small amount of extra effort made a huge difference to the quality and value in these events.

We have placed a focus this year on getting outside our clubs; not just for these official events, but to other clubs' meetings. I firmly believe that this is the single best action we can take to meet other members, identify opportunities and maybe see what other challenges clubs face. Communication between club members, area councils and the division team was facilitated by a Zoom account purchased by myself and reimbursed by the Conference profits. This has been a worthwhile investment, open to all Eastern members and utilised by many.

Personally, I wish to thank the Eastern Area Directors; Kate Norris, Ricardo Bocanegra, Lisa Eichholz, Andrew Pearson, Rianne Luther and Paul McCullough. I was blessed this year with a team that was motivated, knowledgeable and keen to say 'let's give it a go'. Also a particular thanks to Assistant Eastern Division Director, Program Quality Kate Norris who was right behind me during the process of making mistakes, learning and seeing the wins of the year; overall ensuring the quality and programming of the division. And Terry Sheppard who I hardly even had to ask to be the Eastern Division Finance Manager; his studious and careful operation of the finances is appreciated not just by the division but by the district leaders. He has done a job very few, including myself, could. There have been others on the team as well filling in roles as required and no matter how small the job, having it done competently is appreciated immensely. And lastly to my mentors: Anyone I've ever asked a question to, that has offered me advice or I have watched in the past. This is largely the members of my clubs, Leading Edge and Downunder, past Eastern Division Directors/Governors and a handful of others.

On behalf of the 28 clubs in Eastern Division I wish the best of success to our contest representatives this weekend. Not only did each of them perform exceptionally well in previous contests, but they came



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out on top of a lot of brilliant speakers as well. And for the 2018-2019 Eastern team, I wish you also the best of outcomes and hope the results we have seen this year are just a stepping stone for the year ahead. Know that I will always offer my honest advice and knowledge to anyone who asks.

Thomas Kraft, DTM

Eastern Division Director



REPORT OF THE MORETON DIVISION DIRECTOR

It has been a privilege to be the first ever Moreton Division Director. I was able to start the Division without hearing that wonderful phrase “We have always done it that way.” Because we were brand new we were able to do things a little differently to see if they would work.

We started the year with Judges Training on the 5th July in Chermside. We had 10 or so members come along to learn more about how to judge or what judges were looking for in a contest.

The first round of Club Officer Training was held a few days later on the 8th July in Eatons Hill. There were 62 club officer roles trained. We held this training in the morning from 8:30am - 2pm. We experimented with having a free training with a charity coming in to provide lunch for a small fee. The feedback we got was mixed, we received comments from “Fantastic Idea” to “It was inconvenient” so we decided to change it up next round.

The second round of Club Officer Training was held on the 24th February in North Lakes. This time the training was ran from midday until 5pm. We had 60 club officer roles trained and the members were able to give a gold coin donation to cover the cost of two afternoon teas. The main feedback we gained from that event was we should have had Tomato sauce for the sausage rolls.

The Moreton Division Conference was held on the 17th March and I am told it was the best ever Moreton Division Conference!! We had approximately 80 attendees and the feedback was all very positive. Many members told me they would like the Division to use the venue again for further events. We had very high quality speakers and I wish the winners all the best this weekend.

This year has been challenging yet rewarding. I’d like to thank my fellow Division Directors particularly Warren, Thomas and Simon for the advice and idea bouncing that has happened throughout the year. I’d also like to thank Kate Norris (Assistant EDD) for the invaluable feedback and advice so far this year. She taught me the art of Delegation and it has made my time as Division Director so much easier. Well done to Chris, Irene, Sudarshan, Michelle and Franklin for the wonderful work they have done this year. We had 5 unique Area Conferences, each one enjoyable and educational. I would also like to thank Leonard Scuderi, the Moreton Division PQD for all the time and effort he put into training our members. We wanted to make sure Moreton Division started with setting a high standard for our training, a goal which we have achieved.

Annette Mayfield

Moreton Division Director



REPORT OF THE NORTHERN DIVISION DIRECTOR

Northern Division consists of six areas covering North Queensland and the Northern Territory. The Division has 25 clubs and two clubs in formation—one in Darwin and one in Cairns. Congratulations to Area 2 Director, Heather Bruce, and her team for chartering an advanced club in their Area. Welcome, Magnetic North!

Of the 25 clubs, eight have 20 or more members, two have less than 10, and the remaining 15 are somewhere in between. There are many factors that account for the smaller club sizes. Two relate to population size and the transient nature of the workforce.

Another factor, the distance between areas, severely impacts on conference attendance. The most northern area in Queensland is Area 9 with the four clubs all located in Cairns. The most southern area is Area 14 with three of the four clubs in the Mackay area and one, Calen Canefields Club, located some distance away. Area 2 has five clubs in the Townsville area plus one club in Ingham, aptly named Ingham Club. Area 13 also have four Townsville based clubs plus one in Home Hill, Burdekin Toastmasters. Area 32 has one Cairns club and two clubs outside Cairns, one in Innisfail and one in Malanda. Area 39 has three clubs, two in Darwin and one in Alice Springs. Here’s a snapshot of the (road) distances between the Northern Division areas; this will help you appreciate that time and cost prevent many Northern Division members from participating in Division and District conferences:

Distance between Northern Division Areas

From	To	Distance	To	Distance
Mackay	Calen	56km	Cairns	732km
Townsville	Ingham	113km	Home Hill	99km
Innisfail	Cairns	88km	Malanda	82km
Malanda	Cairns	77km	Townsville	332km
Darwin	Alice Springs	1496km	Cairns	2848km
Alice Springs	Cairns	2117km	Mackay	2099km

Fully aware of these challenges, my Area Directors have worked tirelessly to promote Toastmasters, to continuously reinvigorate club membership, and to host fun and entertaining conferences. Well done, Heather Bruce, Keith Seaton, Tim Groves, Gary Minter, Nimesh Fernando and Robert Moore. The Area Directors have also worked closely with our Pathways Guides, Barbara Nielsen, Stewart Jensen, Fiona Koutlis and Mahongo Fumbelo Siakalima. Most members have fully embraced the new Pathways program with some just requiring a little coaxing before opening to change. I am happy to report that the Area Directors, Pathways Guides and TLI Coordinators led by Scott Timmins have fully embraced the Division’s theme *Teamwork makes the dream work*.

Mindful that education is the cornerstone of Toastmasters, the focus for Northern Division in these final months of the current term will be on developing a team of trainers for the Division and continuing with Pathways mentoring as we traverse the new course.

Christine Reghenzani DTM

Northern Division Director 2017-2018



REPORT OF THE SOUTHERN DIVISION DIRECTOR

It has been an interesting year in Southern Division. All the Area Conferences were completed, which culminated in the Southern Division Conference being held on 10 March 2018. I would like to thank all those who attended, assisted and competed on the day. I believe the contestants are getting stronger each year and congratulations to the winners of each contest. I wish them well at the District 69 Conference.

Areas - A big thank you to our Area Directors, Mitch Drage Area 6, Justin Hanna Area 23, Sarafina Zubovic Area 24, Valerie Sutton Area 34, who replaced Nathan Clark during the year and Tracy Travis Area 35. Without the support of the Area Directors I could not have completed my role.

Training - I would also like to mention our Southern Division TLI Carolyn Shaw. Carolyn has done an incredible job this year and has supported me immeasurably. I would have been lost without her. Our two rounds of Club Officer Training have been completed, 24 June 2017 and 04 December 2017, with an excellent attendance on both occasions.

Talk of the South Club organised and presented a Speechcraft training seminar, for those interested on 25 November 2017. Judges training was held on 26 August 2017, with another good attendance.

Milestones - A number of clubs celebrated various milestones this year.

Southport Club celebrated their 1000th meeting on 26 July 2017 (chartered 01.05.79) Uniting Club celebrated their 900th meeting On 21 November 2017 (chartered 01.07.99) Robina celebrating 20 years on 28 March 2018 (chartered (01.03.98). I have had the pleasure of attending those meetings.

Membership - At the start of the Toastmasters year a number of clubs were low in numbers, with some just above the required membership, however more recently there has been an increase in membership of those clubs. Thank you to everyone for your efforts in increasing our membership. We have one club under charter, Upper Coomera and hopefully that club will become a reality Clubs are following the distinguished club program, with clubs reaching the required points and above.

Pathways - Pathways has commenced and I know a lot of members are now participating in that program. I have received a lot of positive comments about Pathways, as a well as some negative ones, however the positives far out weigh the negatives.

Thank you to all the Pathways Ambassadors and guides for undertaking the Pathways journey.

As I said this year in Southern Division has been interesting with a number of challenges along the way, I wish the next Southern Division Director all the best.

Garry Jardine DTM

D69 Southern Division Director



REPORT OF THE WESTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR

This been my finally report for 2018, I have really enjoyed been Western Division Director and yes there have been challenges along the way. I would to acknowledge and personally express my gratitude to the Area Directors Jeanette Hayden A11, Carolyn Becker A29, Estelle Dempster A12, Bernie Moffatt A1 and Joe Abbott A31 for their dedication to their roles.

With the completion of Western Division Conference early in February I can honestly say it was a huge success. Thank you to the Judges who attended the conference and of course to the contestants who competed. Once again, I would like to thank Lockyer Valley Toastmaster club, Jeanette Hayden Cheryl Lukritz and Dudley Cowan for their support in helping run the conference.

Following up from my last report I can happily say that Western Division has successfully launched Zoom. Area 31 were the first to successfully achieve COT training, and members who participated found that it was excellent. Members also thought it was great as it saved them from travelling long distances within Area 31. Zoom will be available to all Toastmasters Clubs within Western Division. Please contact me for more details about using Zoom.

According to Toastmasters International Division and Area reports, Western Division clubs are on track to achieving their DCP goals. I know that all clubs have started on Pathways and will see many Level 1 completed. Indications also show that membership is on the increase.

In closing I would like to thank my mentors Jenny Abbott and Dudley Cowan for their guidance during my time as Western Division Director.

Warren Hayden ACS/ALB
Western Division Director



REPORT OF THE DISTRICT LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

Delegates and Members,

Every nominating candidate was sent a pre-interview criteria based on information needed to effectively conduct and deliver outcomes for their respective roles. The purpose of this was to make sure each had time to gather information that would be required by them throughout the year.

All candidate returned their criteria answers before being interviewed by the panel. Thus giving panel member’s insight into how each nominating member may deliver the outcomes and understanding of the role required during their term of office.

Interviews took place during February; it is pleasing to report that all nominations received by the committee were endorsed as below. Congratulations to each candidate that made themselves available for election as future District Leaders.

Nominations for District Leadership for 2018 - 2019

District Director	Shane Cooper	Endorsed
Program Quality Director	Alana Beale	Endorsed
Club Growth Director	Barbara Nielsen	Endorsed
Brisbane Division	Jenny Bostock	Endorsed
Central Division	Marietta Wetzig	Endorsed
Eastern Division	Andrew Grayson	Endorsed
	Rianne Luther	Endorsed
Morton Division	No nomination	
Northern Division	Heather Bruce	Endorsed
PNG Division	Jayaprasad Ramakrishna	Endorsed
Southern Division	No nomination	
Western Division	No nomination	

I thank all the members that took part in the role of panelists; this is not an easy exercise logistically to conduct. Each member of the panel conducted themselves professionally and with great merit of which I am most grateful.

Thank you for this opportunity to chair this committee.

Joe Abbott DTM. IPDD

Chairman District 69 Leadership Committee 2018



REPORT OF THE PAST DISTRICT GOVERNORS AND DIRECTORS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

The role of the past District Governors and Director's Advisory Committee as defined in the District Management Handbook

10.08 Resolution of District Council - May 1983

1. The objects of the Committee are:

- (a) To recognise the value of the work of District Directors
- (b) To formalise the "passing on" of the benefits of their collective knowledge and experience to following District Executives

2. It is the responsibility of this Committee to assist the incoming District Director in being aware of the responsibility for the functioning of District and the necessity for the District Director to become more closely involved early in the planning for the Administration.

As the Chairman of the Committee I am the conduit through which correspondence in and out passes. Requests for the Committee to consider or thoughts and decisions made by the Committee or individuals and then passed on to the District Trio.

This year members of the Committee have been called on to assist with tasks within the District. They have also been asked by the District Director for assistance. They have provided assistance and feedback that they have felt to be appropriate in accordance with their charter. Some of the members have been assigned roles and tasks by the District Team.

As per section 3 of 10.08 in the District Management Handbook they have been asked to Chair Committees in areas that was felt their leadership experience and knowledge would be of benefit to all members of our District. Members of the Committee, who are able, are looking forward to doing this. Being Chairman has been another growing leadership opportunity for me. It is important to remember that the Chairman is the messenger. At the end of my term I will pass over the Chairmanship to Joe Abbott as it will be his second year after being the District Director and the next step in his Leadership journey.

Christine Lennon DTM

Chairman Past District Governors and Directors' Committee
District 69 2017-18