



Central Division Report

31st August 2021

What an interestingly challenging start to the year. Gaining support from Area Directors was the easy part as they are all dedicated to Toastmasters and have years of experience.

Getting to know their strengths and weaknesses, and for them to know mine has been a good start to the year. For a communications organisation sometimes, we need to be reminded of deadlines and to pace achievements in a timely manner.

All Area Directors have contacted their clubs and informed them of expectations.

Area 28 – Deb Barnett has completed 3 Area reports – in which 2 clubs require coaching and a lot of support, due to inexperience within the clubs. Gympie Goal Diggers are organising the Contest for the 9th October in Gympie and roles have been assigned.

Weblec has excelled with 8 new members to date and as an online club opening doors to further afield. Training was attended by 30 members.

Area 16 – Debbie Holly had some difficulty putting her report on line and Noosa have requested a coach as they asked for expression of interest to be sent to them. There are 7 new members in this area so far. Training was attended by 23 members. Their contest is planned for 23rd October – not sure where as yet.

Area 22 – Mike Storky has not visited officially as yet but do meet with few members to discuss events. They also have 2 new members in the area. 22 members attended training. Contest is planned for 2nd October at Mudjimba I believe.

Area 10 – Chris McLean has attended one visit to date and there are 3 new members in the Area. Their contest is planned for 17th October in Hervey Bay.

Area 4 – John Sleigh has also not visited clubs officially to date and is planning to do so in September. They also have 3 new members and Yeppoon is the club that is having some difficulty. Being a hybrid club, their agenda is sent out to fill in gaps. At present relying on guests to fill the vacancies. Planning on 30th October for contest in Gladstone.

All clubs have majority of members working on a pathway – still a few older members not interested, however they are valuable for their mentoring skills and support.

I have sent out checklist to all Directors for requirements for contests to help their clubs do the planning. Now working on updating scripts for contest chairperson though have asked District for an update which they are working on.

Clubs are in the midst of club contests at present so winners can be put forward to the Areas in time for their contests.

Some concerns have been in training on line that was discussed and planned and a few cancelations or postponements which is a bit deflating for enthusiastic members.

- Base camp is one which is required for new executives.
- Judges training was held on line and we now have a list of potential judges who understand their role and hopefully offer to assist the other Areas.
- Facebook marketing program on 23rd October in Maryborough
- Evaluation workshop planned for 28 October on line.

Youth Leadership and Speechcraft Programs are being offered throughout District – just not sure of finer details, will follow up. Wine and Dine Club will complete 2nd YLP next week and starting a Speechcraft after they are finished.

Anniversary celebrations on hold for most at present. Directors working through club visits, contests, base camp for new members as well as their own lives and clubs.

They assure me fees will be paid on time – 1 club has paid up – but as they are due end September – invoices and reminders have been made.

Central Div. holds a zoom catch up meeting on 2nd Sunday of each month at 6.30pm.
No issues have been brought to my attention unless I'm deaf or not listening.

"Heart and Soul" award in Honour of Pat Pitt – nominations will be sent out in November for Clubs to ponder over who is deserving of this award. The Hall of Fame Awards night has been a priority at present as there are many who achieve so much, and don't put hands up to nominate.

All in all – still here and surviving – Have a great supportive team which we will continue to work through our goals and plan to finish off the year in the best positive way.
Early days yet.

Dawn Smith
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Keep Smiling