



Newsletter

May 2023

Greetings!

Welcome to the District 91 Newsletter!

Spring is here and we are enjoying more clement weather. It's an exciting time to be a District 91 Member. The Division Contests have taken place. We know the 32 contestants that will represent their Divisions in the hotly contested District Finals! And conference has SO much more *[Scroll to get the latest Conference news!](#)*

What this newsletter contains, so you can get to the right content more quickly:

- Our District Director, Rupa, encourages us to finish the year strongly
- Program Quality Director, Diane Richardson: Nearly Distinguished District
- Club Growth Wisdom, from Debbie Williams, our Club Growth Director
- D91 District Conference is Inspiring Futures! Friday 12 to Sunday 14 May
- Candidates Corner - learn who is taking on D91 leadership in 2023-2024
- District Council - the most important business meeting for D91 this year!
- Club Elections: if you have not held them, then you probably should do!
- Laughing Toastmaster, Sonia with a very funny piece on D91 Conference
- D91 Calendar: it is all about the District 91 Spring Conference this month!
- Join us. Help us get to 5000 Members – new roles available in Vacancies
- May 2023 Toastmasters Magazine - and hot off the press - is Out Now!

Aside from this newsletter, another way to stay in touch is: [Join the District 91 Slack Channel](#) - a place to connect and collaborate together with other leaders in our district including the District Leadership team. You can follow channels that interest you from general information to recognition, contests, and events.

May message from our District Director, Rupa



News from Diane and Debbie

May 2023: Nearly Distinguished, Member Recognition & Contests

Publication deadlines mean that I am drafting this article on the 30th April, rather than in May. As a District we are “nearly Distinguished”. With 66 clubs having already passed the milestone, we need only 2 more to become a Distinguished district. When I look at the Toastmasters International dashboard, I also see that many other clubs are working hard to reach this goal and are tantalizingly close.

[Read More...](#)



Diane Richardson
Program Quality Director

May 2023: Club Growth Wisdom

We are just eight weeks away from the end of the Toastmasters year, and I want to encourage you all to finish strong. District 91 is currently sitting at an



impressive number 4 in the world for member payments and with Select Distinguished status, a testament to the hard work and determination of all clubs in recruiting new members and renewing existing ones. [Read More...](#)

Debbie Williams
Club Growth Director

D91 Inspiring Futures Conference 2023

Attention members!

Are you ready to experience the excitement and inspiration of the Inspiring Futures Conference in person? With **in-person tickets now at 70% venue capacity**, it's time to secure your spot and avoid missing out on this unforgettable event.

Don't wait until it's too late – the ticket sale deadline is **Tuesday, May 9th**. Act fast to ensure you have the opportunity to connect face-to-face with other members, engage in interactive workshops, and hear from renowned speakers.

This is your chance to be a part of something truly special. The Inspiring Futures Conference promises to be a transformative experience.

Purchase your ticket now and join us for an unforgettable event that will leave you feeling inspired and energised!

conference.d91toastmasters.org.uk
conference@d91toastmasters.org.uk

Club Offer

Limited time offer for clubs to purchase a block of 5 full weekend tickets for £150 each (down from £180 each) via bank transfer.

Request before **Friday 5th May 5pm** for bulk purchase discounts.

Contact training@d91toastmasters.org.uk for details.

IN PERSON AND ONLINE TICKETS

D91 INSPIRING FUTURES CONFERENCE

MAY 12-14

*"Public speaking is not just about mastering your words, it's about inspiring your audience"**

Join us at the D91 conference 12-14 May 2023 to be inspired. Get your tickets now!

*unknown

**GET YOUR CONFERENCE TICKET
TODAY**

Candidates Showcase: 2023-2024 District Leadership Team



Dear District 91 Members,

Do you want to know who will be leading this great District 91 next year? Come see the handover of the baton to the next cohort of leaders at District 91 with the Candidates Showcase.

Candidates Showcase - will be held online on Thursday 11 May - virtual doors open at 18:30 (BST).

This event is open to all members to attend. It's of particular interest to District 91 Council voting members (*Club Presidents, VPEs and District Executive Committee*).

This is the opportunity to hear from the candidates standing for elective office for the program year 2023/24.

Registration is required to access this free event - the joining details are available on the District 91 Calendar and via the Conference Agenda link, on the District 91 website.

<https://d91toastmasters.org.uk/members/news/calendar/>

See you at the Conference.

Helena Boden-Brewer, DTM
District 91 - Immediate Past District Director
District Leadership Committee Chair

District Council: the Most Important D91 Business Meeting of the Year!



Did you catch the invitation to the District Council from our District Director, Rupa Datta? You can watch it here!

This is a very special invitation to join the Annual General Meeting of D91 Toastmasters and effectively the most important meeting of the year. Why is this? Because we elect next generation of leaders for the 2023-2024 year.

As you know if you will know if you've been reading this newsletter, Toastmasters District 91 UK South, Spring Conference is being held over the weekend of the 12th, 13th and 14th of May 2023. Of course, this is centred around the 4 District contests, keynotes and other great features and learning opportunities. But it is also important to recognise that the centrepiece of the event happens on Saturday with the District Council Meeting.

If you are a Club Officer, either President or a VPE you are automatically a member of District Council and you would have received an invitation to join us at this event from our Admin Manager Amy Jones. It is one of your official responsibilities as a Club Officer to attend this event.

All voting District Council members ensure that you complete your registration to attend the District Council meeting by 19:00 on Friday 11 May.

District Council Members have been provided with a registration link for in-person or online attendance via Formal Notice. Please email admin.manager@d91toastmasters.org.uk if you are a District Council member and have not seen the Formal Notices sent on the 15th and 29th of April. Please note the registration deadline is Friday the 12th of May, 7pm in order for your vote to count.

Any member is welcome to observe the council meeting, it will be live-streamed

here https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NM_Msmhj6ds If you'd like to see the council meeting in person, please note priority for seating goes to District council members, candidates and members supporting logistics.

The elections take place during the District Council Meeting on Saturday 13 May.

Additional supporting information - District Leadership Committee report is available on the District website along with details of all the nominated candidates published on the Candidates Corner page - check these out too. <https://d91toastmasters.org.uk/members/leadership/>

Club Elections: Some useful information for all D91 Clubs!



Have you noticed that we are approaching a exciting time of succession planning?

Before a transition/handover happens, the club election, which most clubs hold in May, should run according to the recommended procedure. If you have not had a Club election then this information is especially for you:

We suggest that all current Club officers take the following into due consideration:

- Ensure that the date of your club's AGM is communicated to all members (usually the first meeting in May) In addition to elections, the state of club's finances to be presented and make it a fun event and consider recognition and a celebratory event

- For club's with annual elections, a Club President cannot be re-elected for a subsequent term
- The Club President and Club Treasurer should be different members for good governance
- If the office of Immediate Past President is vacant, the Club President appoints another member in good standing to chair the committee
- All Club Officer roles are elected, not appointed

The resources below are well worth referring to to walk you through the process step by step. Explore these helpful materials from Toastmasters International to understand the club election process from creating the Club Leadership Committee, to completing the [Club Leadership Committee Report](#), and holding the election. <https://d91toastmasters.org.uk/members/leadership/>

Answers to any other questions you may have about the Club Elections can be found in this [FAQ](#)

If you want some inspiration for joining the committee, as there are always often still roles to fill then watch the above video, 'Pay it Forward' I delivered this morning at Election Day at my Club Berkeley Square Speakers.

Chris Arning,
PR Manager

Sonia our Laughing Toastmaster on D91 Conference



When Rakhi Jain (conference PR) suggested I write an article on, 'Why Attend the D91 Conference' I was all for it! At the same time, I thought, 'Shouldn't she ask someone who's a bit more Toastmasterly?' And by that, I mean people who say things like, 'Everybody's a Winner!' Not a bitter person like me who thinks, 'If everybody is a winner, why didn't I even PLACE?' and starts to cry? [Read More...](#)

D91 Events in This Month of May

Events

- 11 May - D91 Candidates Showcase
- 12 May - D91 Conference: Opening Ceremony, Evaluation Contest

- 13 May - D91 Conference: District Council Meeting
- 13 May - D91 Conference: International Speech Contest
- 14 May - D91 Conference: Humorous Speech Contest, Table Topics Contest
- 26 May - LinkedIn Live: Pay it Forward (event details to come)



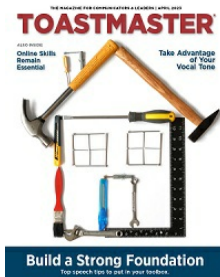
Save the Date



Help us Reach 5000 - D91 Current Vacancies

Do you want to grow your talents while supporting a club, area, division or even district? Then explore our vacancies! Various previous experience and time commitments needed. Vacancies currently available to serve alongside Amy in Admin or Chris in the PR team. Click on the link to see what's available!

Choose an Exciting Role



The May issue of the [Toastmaster magazine](#) is full of news and inspiration including news on the upcoming International Convention in the Bahamas.

- Why Neurodivergent brains thrive in Clubs
- Make Succession a Success at your Club
- Learning to Love my Autistic Identity
- The Habits of Inclusive Communicators
- Bilingual Clubs cross Borders

Read the Magazine

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