



# Newsletter

June 2023

Greetings!

Welcome to the District 91 Newsletter!

We've had an excellent District Conference and we have a new set of District Officers. An exciting time to be a District 91 Member. Your Club has probably held elections and you must be looking forward to a Toastmasters year with great enthusiasm. At the District Leadership Team we are in handover mode but that does not mean we don't have time to share relevant content on what's been happening in what has been a v. busy time in D91.

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

- Our District Director, Rupa, on a mini-break in Portugal in reflective mood
- Program Quality Director, Diane Richardson on Distinguished Status
- Club Growth Wisdom, from Debbie Williams, our Club Growth Director
- Contest Winners Section: especially celebrating our D91 Champions!
- Bloomberg Corporate Recognition Award - it's quite (a very) big deal!
- Real benefits from the Virtual World: a focus on our District online clubs
- Laughing Toastmaster, Sonia with a very funny piece on geeky feminism
- D91 Calendar: a quiet month so far, so please do book in all your events!
- Join us. Help us get to 5000 Members – new roles available in Vacancies
- June 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.

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**June message from our District Director, Rupa (in Portugal)**



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## News from Diane and Debbie

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### June 2023: Select Distinguished and Signing Off!

A thank you to you all for your hard work and dedication during the past 11 months. This has meant that the district has already 77 Distinguished clubs, thus becoming a Select Distinguished district for club quality this year. With a month still to go we may become Presidents Distinguished or even Smedley Distinguished if another 16 clubs reach distinguished status or higher by the end of June. Presently, we are the District ranked first in Europe for the percentage of distinguished clubs and 6th in the world. [Read More...](#)



Diane Richardson  
Program Quality Director

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### June 2023: Club Growth Wisdom: Finishing Strong

In Toastmasters, we place great emphasis on finishing the year with determination and striving for success until the

very end. One example that resonates with this concept is the story of Olympic swimmer Michael Phelps. Throughout his career, Phelps consistently demonstrated the power of finishing strong and overcoming challenges. Phelps faced numerous obstacles and setbacks on his path to becoming the most decorated Olympian of all time. [Read More...](#)



**Debbie Williams**  
Club Growth Director

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## Our District 91 Spring Conference Contest Winners!



As PRM this is what I volunteered for. To celebrate the best in our District; and these four are the very best. The winners of our District 91 Spring Conference contests: Sylvia Lobo of Toasted Sandwich Speakers, Anthony Garvey of Shilling Speakers, Sarina Mann of Hamwic Speakers and Dan Magill of Croydon Communicators. If you want to read more about these individuals, their reactions to their wins + interviews then go [click here](#).

[See More...](#)

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## Bloomberg Corporate Recognition Award



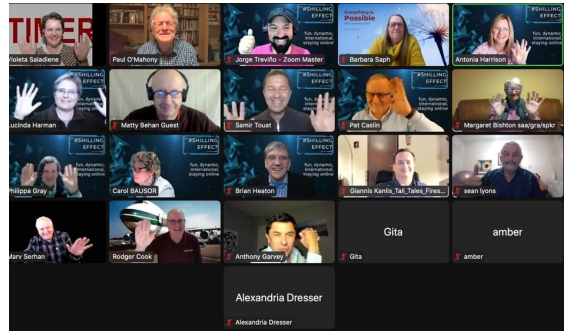
You may never have heard of it, but the Corporate Recognition Award is

somewhat of a big deal at Toastmasters International. Corporations from around the world have formed symbiotic relationships with Toastmasters. By sponsoring a club at their workplace, companies are allowing the Toastmasters program to help improve employees' leadership, communication, and public speaking skills. [See More...](#)

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## Online Clubs: Getting Real Benefits from a Virtual World

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Do you think the majority of Toastmasters clubs in District 91 are online only, face-to-face or hybrid clubs? The answer may surprise you. 38% of clubs in our District are hybrid clubs, just 30% have fully returned to face-to-face meetings, while 16% of our clubs are online only. 11% of our clubs alternate between face-to-face and online and 5% switch between online and hybrid. Here Anthony Garvey, the just crowned D91 Speech Contest winner + President of Shilling Speakers shares his story. [See More...](#)

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## Sonia Aste, our Laughing Toastmaster on Geeky Feminism



Who says the age of miracles is past? Here's one for you: I'm a GEEK! Me, the woman who has spent her life trying to be 'cool' but always ends up with parsley stuck between her teeth. Last week I successfully completed an after-dinner speech at an IT conference, making me a full-fledged techy-nerdy-geek! I've never been happier! You know what they call geeks when they grow up? Rich.

[Read More...](#)

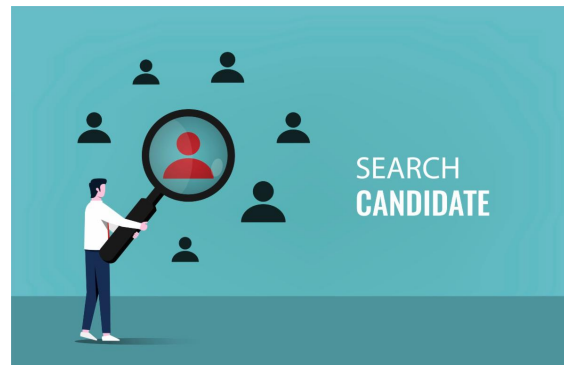
## D91 Events in This Month of June

### Events

- 11 June - DLT & Division Director's Meeting
- 15 June - Leveraging OBS for your next Grammarian's role
- 12 June - Wembley Stadium Speakers
- 19 June - Wembley Stadium Speakers
- 26 June - Wembley Stadium Speakers
- 30 June - LinkedIn Live on Legacy



[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 new vacancies! Various types of previous experience and time commitments needed. Vacancies currently available to serve alongside our newly formed District Leadership Team. In particular we are looking for Members to support both Aayushi with D91 Admin or Nikita within the D91 PR team. Click on the link to see what's available!

[Choose an Exciting Role](#)



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

- Serious talk about workplace humour
- The benefits of Toastmasters on vacation
- Lengthen your list of avoided filler words
- A panel moderator's guide to success
- It's Your turn to Toast with C.H.E.E.R.S.

[Read the Magazine](#)

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