

Subject: Toastmasters District 91 Newsletter - September 2023
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Welcome to our September newsletter, District 91 Member. In this edition:

- [Convention news](#) - District Director, Diane Richardson
- [Program Quality Update](#) - Program Quality Director, Steve Vear
- [District Council](#) decision on 2023-24 contests
- [Club Contest Season and Growth Opportunities](#) - Club Growth Director, Mo Dawodu
- [Green Room Gossip](#) - The Laughing Toastmaster, Sonia Aste
- [The Winchmore Hill Speakers Success Story](#) - Division L Director, Sean Dean
- [The Dog Days of Summer](#) - Division J Director, Andy Hessey
- [Meet your DLT](#) - District Administration Manager, Aayushi Jain
- [District Diary Dates](#)
- [Now Playing](#)

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Convention news



Districts 71 & 91 were both celebrated at the Hall of Fame at the Annual Convention in Nassau. Elizabeth Jordan and Diane Richardson each received the "District Program Quality Award" for achieving Smedley Distinguished status for numbers of distinguished clubs and Rupa Datta received



the "District Club Strength Award" for strengthening average club size by 14.4%.

Last month was the Annual Toastmasters International Convention.

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Program Quality Update

How is it possible that we are now in the third month of this programme year? I don't mind admitting that I have been a lifelong Star Trek fan and the speed of everything in the district at the moment reminds me now of a quote that I often use when I am doing the timekeeper role at my club:

"Time is the fire in which we burn".

The thing with time is that it can be both a healer and stealer.

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District Council decision on 2023-24 contests

At our District Council on Saturday 16th September, Council decided to adopt hybrid contest format at area, division and district level for this 2023-24 programme year, based on limited strict choices stipulated by Toastmasters International world headquarters. The decision in favour of hybrid at division and district level was unanimous without objection. The decision in favour of hybrid at area level was by secret ballot with 70% of votes cast in favour.

Please provide practical support to your Area Directors to deliver quality area contests together and consider using your club venue and facilities for your area contests if you hold successful hybrid club meetings there routinely. These contests are self-funded. Historically this has been through admission and catering charges for audience members, and all clubs within the area may make financial contributions.

Club Contest Season and Growth Opportunities

On Wednesday 21 September 2016 I walked into Lewisham Methodist Church with a friend.



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“Last week I paid more for one ice-cream than I paid for a month’s Toastmasters Membership”

**Its renewal time.
Still great value
for money**



Green Room Gossip

As Toastmasters we visit a lot of Green Rooms doing public speaking. Personally, I’d prefer if they were white and padded (especially before an important gig), but at this point in my ‘thriving’ public speaking career, I’m just glad there’s a ROOM.

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Winchmore Hill Speakers Success Story

I am more than happy to be able to talk about a success story in Division L. And who doesn't like to hear a comeback story?

Winchmore Hill Speakers are located in Winchmore Hill, to the north of Central London, and meet at the Paulin Ground every first and third Monday of the month. Like a lot of clubs,



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they were hit hard by COVID and the transition from in-person to online meetings. This had taken its toll on the membership, which fell to just eight members.

The Dog Days of Summer

The dog days of summer across Wales and the Thames Valley have been highly productive. We have 23 of the best clubs in the district supported by five outstanding Area Directors – Debs (J4), Andra (J7), Helyn (J10), John (J11) and Hazel (J22) have all settled into their roles amazingly and thank you to Carolyn for covering for John while he was away.

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Meet your DLT - Administration Manager, Aayushi Jain DTM

Meet Aayushi Jain, DTM your District Admin Manager for 2023-24. She has served our District 91 as a Select Distinguished Area Director and as Social Media Manager for D91 Conference - Inspiring Futures in 2022-23.

Her Toastmasters journey began in 2016, honing communication and leadership skills. Aayushi excelled as an Area Director, President Distinguished Division Director in District 92, and Conference Director for District 121.

Now, in London, she brings her Change and Culture Program Manager expertise at British Telecommunications to streamline administration processes. Aayushi's dedication and excitement is infectious and will foster growth, happiness and success in our Toastmasters community.



District 91 Diary Dates

Enjoy your club contests this month, it's going to get busy with area and division contests soon! In view of our District Council decision, please treat these dates as provisional as they may be subject to change.

- Wednesday 11th October - Area **D14** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Saturday 14th October - Area **H32** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests

- Sunday 15th October - Area **H37** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Monday 16th October - Area **L16** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Saturday 21st October - Area **B52** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Monday 23rd October - Area **L56** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Tuesday 24th October - Area **H15** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Tuesday 24th October - Area **L47** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Saturday 28th October - Area **B18** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests
- Monday 30th October - Area **C2** Humorous Speech and Table Topics Contests

Now Playing

Do you have music or a podcast that touches, moves or inspires you? Let us know and it may appear here soon!

[Submit Here](#)

This month we're featuring the prolific **Violeta Saladiene** & her **Shilling Toastmasters podcast** which runs to over forty episodes and is nicely produced. Running between 21 and 45 minutes each, they have been produced over just 18 months. The podcast is available on [Apple](#) & [Spotify](#).





District 91

1 level per member

10+ net members gained

100% Pathways enrollment

10th Anniversary



This email has been sent to you at newsletter@d91toastmasters.org.uk as you are a member of District 91 club, using our new member engagement platform. We will shortly be providing details of how to customise your personal experience with District 91 Toastmasters. This will enable you to opt-in or opt-out of specific types of communications and focus on what matters most to you. We are looking forward to serving you with relevant and engaging information.

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