



# District 73

## Southern Cross Newsletter

### July 2020: New Beginnings

## Welcome to the **July edition** of the Southern Cross Newsletter

*The “Southern Cross” is here to celebrate member, club, area, division, and district successes; and to share district-related and Toastmasters International information, news, and events. Together with the [D73 Website](#) and the [D73 Facebook Group](#), we aim to share ideas and opinions about improvements you would like to see in the district.*

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▶ **FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK**

**A** new Toastmaster year is here, and here I am, taking up the role as the District 73 Southern Cross Newsletter Editor.



I have been working closely with the District Team, particularly the District Trio, as well as the District Public Relations Manager in order to streamline the content that is featured in this newsletter. They have provided me great assistance in redesigning, reorganising, and restructuring content in the newsletter so that they remain relevant, and continue to add value to District 73 members.

Consequently, you would notice significant changes in the newsletter, particularly in areas such as the design, content and method of delivery of the newsletter (delivered in an attachment compared to directly in an email). These changes have been implemented with you, the member in mind.

Another significant change in the newsletter, is the introduction of “Themes”. Thus, the theme for this newsletter, “New Beginnings” was aptly chosen to signify a new Toastmaster Year. Hopefully this would be a great start for a great year!

The Toastmaster Year has just started, and we got the ball rolling through District Officer Training (DOT) over the weekend of the first week in July. As this was my very first time attending a DOT, I learnt a lot about the District over the 2 days, and it was great to see an inaugural online DOT being conducted, and executed well!

I hope that you will enjoy the rest of this newsletter. Meanwhile, if you are subjected to a lockdown, stay safe and take care. We will get through this together.

**Kwan Liong Ng**  
**Southern Cross Newsletter Editor 2020/2021**

▶ **IMPORTANT TOASTMASTER DATES**

Please visit the **District 73 Events Calendar** to get an up-to-date list of Area, Division and District Events

EVENT	DATE	TIME
<b>Toastmasters International Convention</b>	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Aug to Sat 29 Aug 2020	Online Business Meeting
<b>District Executive Committee (DEC) Meeting</b>	Sat 5 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2020	3:00pm to 5:00pm
<b>Leadership Forum (In-Person or Virtual)</b>	Sun 6 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2020	9:00am to 4:30pm
<b>Virtual District Council Meeting</b>	Sun 13 <sup>th</sup> Sept 2020	3:00pm to 5:00pm
<b>Leadership Forum/DEC – Virtual</b>	Sun 8 <sup>th</sup> Nov 2020	9:00am to 12:00 noon and 2:00pm to 4:00pm
<b>Leadership Forum/DEC – Virtual</b>	Sun 21 <sup>st</sup> Feb 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm
<b>DEC – Virtual</b>	Sat 10 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	3:00pm to 5:00pm
<b>Leadership Forum – Virtual</b>	Sun 11 <sup>th</sup> April 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm
<b>District Council Meeting (DCM)</b>	Sat 15 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	3:00pm to 5:00pm if online OR 2:00pm to 5:00pm if in person
<b>District 73 Conference</b>	14 <sup>th</sup> – to 16 <sup>th</sup> May 2021	Friday to Sunday

**Division Contest Schedule:**

DIVISION	DATE	TIME
<b>Bass</b>	27 March 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Central</b>	20 March 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Eastern</b>	20 February 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Inner City</b>	13 March 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Metro</b>	14 March 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Northern</b>	14 February 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Ranges</b>	28 March 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*
<b>Southern</b>	28 February 2021	9:00am to 4:30pm*

\* times are an indication only, and may be subjected to change. Please consult the relevant Division Director to obtain the exact timings of the contest

Please refer to the relevant Area Director about details of an Area Contest. List of Area Directors can be found at <https://d73.toastmasters.org.au/officers/>

## ▶ THE START OF SOMETHING NEW BRINGS THE HOPE OF SOMETHING GREAT

Welcome to the beginning of the 2020-2021 year and our new look newsletter. Thank you to Kwan, our Editor who has been working hard to provide us with interesting and informative content.

“The start of something new brings the hope of something great..... anything is possible”. This quote by an unknown author inspires me to think that as we begin this new Toastmaster year that each of us can aspire to something great.

What goals have you set for this year? What is it that you want to achieve? Now is a good time to decide where you want to get to by the end of 2020-2021 and set the wheels in motion.

Covid-19 has certainly left its mark everywhere and has, for a time, changed the way that we do things. We may have been isolated in some ways but despite that we have been able to maintain a connection with those in our club and District. Let's continue to stay connected and work out ways that we can achieve greatness working within the current new normal. Let's work out new ways to move forward and, as we do, assist those in our Clubs to achieve their goals. The individual member is the most important person in Toastmasters. As we support each other, together

we can achieve so much. Strength comes from working together.

Think about the “Why”? The “Why” you joined Toastmasters and the “Why” you stay. What is it that motivates you to turn up to each meeting? I believe it is possible to grow our membership, and word of mouth is one of the best forms of advertising. New beginnings are an opportunity to move forward. Maybe someone you know is waiting for the opportunity that Toastmasters can offer them. Share your “Whys” with them now.

I look forward to working with our District Leadership team this year to support our members and their clubs to achieve something great. We have a fantastic team who are enthusiastic and motivated to work with you and assist you to achieve your individual and club goals in the next year.

As I said at the beginning “The start of something new brings the hope of something great..... anything is possible”. As we work together, I believe that we can achieve something great because anything is possible.

**Vicki Travers DTM**  
**D73 District Director**

Workshop Advertisement:

### HOW TO RUN AN ONLINE SPEECH CONTEST

Hear from people who have been a Contest Chair, Contest Judge, Contest Zoom Master and contestant at the District Online Speech Contests. Learn their tips and tricks so you and your club members can smoothly navigate this new experience.

**Event:** How to Run an Online Speech Contest

**When:** Saturday 18 July, 2pm-4pm AEST (1:30pm-3:30pm Adelaide Time).

**Register Here:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-itrj4sGNUWF4wR8KbxZyuZ611nBxae>

## ▶ CONTEST TIME

It's that time again when club contests will soon start. With the global challenges of COVID-19, many clubs will have to approach their contests differently this year. The decision on how a club will run its contest will depend on two things – local government restrictions and member comfort levels.

There are different restrictions in place across District 73 depending on which state you live in. Metropolitan Melbourne is currently in a second lockdown, while other states are beginning to open up and relax their restrictions. Those clubs in Metropolitan Melbourne will not be able to meet face-to-face to hold a contest.

In Tasmania and South Australia, it may be possible to hold a face-to-face competition but social distancing will still need to be taken into consideration. Some members may also feel they are not yet comfortable coming back to an in-person environment.

If a club wishes to hold a contest then the Club Executive Team will need to discuss with their members the best approach for the club.

### • **Where do I find the rules on how to run a contest?**

The Toastmasters International Rulebook is the official source on how contests should be run. Contests should always follow the rules laid out in this rulebook. The new Speech Contest Rulebook 1 July 2020 – 30 June 2021 is now available at:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/2020-2021-speech-contest-rulebook>

Please note any changes in the rulebook this year. Changes are highlighted by a diamond symbol in the left margin.

### • **How do I determine how many contestants go through to the next level?**

District 73 operating procedures follow the selection sequence outlined in the rulebook which is:

1. To allow two participants from each club to compete in an Area contest if an Area has

four assigned clubs or fewer in good standing.

2. Should additional clubs charter in an Area prior to the Area contest, two contestants from each club in that Area will be permitted to compete.
3. In those Divisions with four assigned Areas or less, the two highest-placed available contestants from each Area will be allowed to compete.

Please note that District 73 does not reimburse gifts to Contest Officials at Area, Division and District contests.

### • **Where can I find more resources on how to run speech contests?**

Toastmasters International has a number of contest resources available on its website which can be found at:

<https://www.toastmasters.org/leadership-central/speech-contests>

<https://www.toastmasters.org/resources/news%20and%20announcements/online%20meetings>

District 73 is also providing online workshops on how to run online speech contests. Central Division in South Australia held a workshop on 11 July and another online workshop will be held in Victoria on 18 July. All welcome to attend. Here are the registration and Zoom links for the 18 July workshop.

#### **Register Here:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYqd-itrj4sGNUWF4wR8KbxZyuZ611nBxae>

#### **Zoom Link:**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82701505621?pwd=M29KRnkzSDFUL2NNdk1uY09LNhVhPUT09>

Wishing you all the best with your speech contests.

**Karl Hughes DTM, Program Quality Director,**  
pqd@d73.toastmasters.org.au



▶ **LET'S LEARN THE ROPES**

It all started when my mum motivated me to read about the 11th President of India, Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam. His story about a self-made man with an ambition to educate the masses and inspire the youth to explore their potential ignited a fire inside me that burns like wildfire whenever I hear my mom's voice every time inside my head saying - be like him Namrita.

Now that I have shared the most intimate inspiration with my fellow of Toastmasters. I would also like to share what I plan to bring to the table of District 73, as your CGD. My foremost wish is to make District 73 the most recognized yet sustaining District within Toastmasters International. My segue wish is to do it with utmost kindness and spread smiles across many faces. And since we live in this amazing new age of technology and I love using technology a lot myself, I wish to embrace the opportunity to share the knowledge and ideas across the District to help everyone make the most of all the new innovations that are at our disposal

I am sure that it will not only help us Toastmasters reach a new height of

excellence, but also quickens the process of reaching our District and personal development goals. With that in mind, I would like to address that these are very interesting times and times that will be remembered for years to come in our lifetime. Make the most of it because it is times like these that give us the best life opportunities. Make the most of it because as someone rightfully said, *'Smooth seas do not make skilful sailors'*. It is usually the hard knocks in life that soften cut our rough edges and shape us into something more refined and resilient.

So, what are you waiting for fellow Toastmasters? Pick up those sails and hoist them up the mast because we are off to sail beyond the sunset...

Looking forward to a fun-filled Toastmaster year with all of you.

**With Gratitude,  
Namrita Anchan  
D73 Club Growth Director**



## ▶ DISTRICT AWARDS NIGHT- 'TIME TO FLY- WINGS READY?!

Final thank you to the District leadership team for 2019/2020: Vicki Travers DTM (PQD), Karl Hughes DTM (CGD), Phil Kaufman (Finance Manager), David Martin (Admin manager), Danielle Jones-Resnik DTM (PR Manager) and Elizabeth Allwood DTM (IPDD) you have helped to shape the District in these challenging times. Thank you for your support and guidance. Welcome to the [District leaders for 2020/2021](#) and to the [incoming additional District leaders](#). We wish you well for the incoming year. There are many leaders who are not named here but we have thoroughly enjoyed working with you and the teams. It has been a pleasure. Thanks for stepping up to deliver for all in your reach.

### **District awards Night- 'Time to fly- Wings ready?!'**

Congratulations to our award winners for the 2019-2020 year at the District awards night celebration on the 4th July 2020 'Time to Fly- Wings Ready?!' Recordings of the awards night will be shared on the District 73 web site that is currently in process of being revamped. Stay tuned, its going to be a ripper!!

Thank you to those who assisted on the evening of our awards night: Simon Walliker DTM as Toastmaster, Inspirational Speech- Steven Angel DTM 'A promise', Timer- Christine Dimitros DTM, Zoom masters: Debbie Horoba DTM and Danielle Jones-Resnik DTM.

Thank you to those who stayed behind after the awards night for a photo. So good to see such a great turnout to the event. A few images of those supporting our Award recipients on the night are on Pg 6.

### **International Guest- Luisa Montalvo (Texas)**

A very special thank you to our guest Luisa Montalvo (please refer to Pg 6 for her bio) who delivered a superb personal message of her journey to the world stage as First Runner-up in the 2019 World Championship of Public Speaking®. She joined us at 4 a.m. her time to inspire at our awards night.

### **D73 Award winners shine**

Our award winners were selected by the District leadership team who were guided by the core values of Toastmasters which are integrity, respect, service and excellence. They are as follows:

- I am a Toastmasters Day' 1st June – Bharat Sangekar (please refer to Pg 8 for his post)

- Division Director of the year- Kelly Vieira DTM
- Area Director of the year- Nola Sharp DTM
- 'Outstanding TM' were also awarded to the following for their support, guidance, tenacity and individual contributions as servant leaders to the District and Toastmasters International:
  - Dani Streets
  - Jules Davey
  - Debbie Horoba
  - Phil Kaufman
  - Anna Weissmann
  - Ansuman Roy
  - Emma Hiscock
  - Vicki Travers
- Club of the Year 'Servianites'

All Awards will be distributed in the coming weeks to these winners. Thank you to all members who have gone beyond their role and supported our district. Please read on in this newsletter for further information on some of the contributions of these members to receive these awards.

Thank you also to Danielle Jones-Resnik for her support as contest coordinator for 2020 and additional thanks to Christine Dimitros for 2019, your guidance and advice has been exceptional.

As we gather our energy for the new year please continue to support each other to enjoy the fruits of the hard work laid down before you from the contributions those have made in the past and springboard from these achievements to continue to grow District 73. Continue to follow the [District 73 calendar](#) the hub of activity for all events.

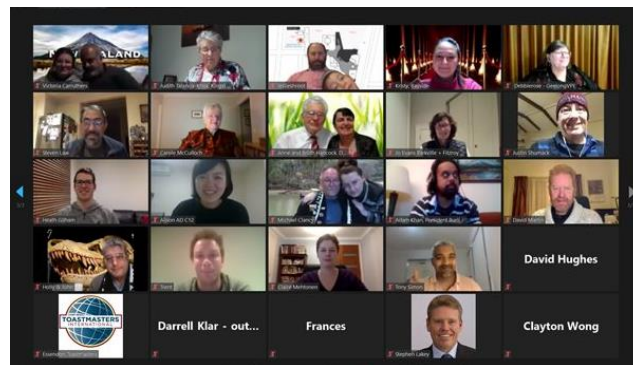
We have the resources, talent and capabilities to continue to strive. It takes a village. Thank you all for your engagement.

**Sue Pederick DTM**  
**Immediate Past District Director (IPDD)**



▶ **DISTRICT AWARDS NIGHT- 'TIME TO FLY- WINGS READY?!**

Pictures of District 73 members enjoying the Awards Night!



**Biography : Luisa Montalvo**

Luisa Montalvo was born and raised in South Texas. She then moved to Austin Texas where she worked for Abbott Laboratories for 25 years. After her father passed away, she retired at the age of 53 and moved back to The Valley to spend time with her mom. She was a member of Toastmasters for three years in 1989 then re-joined in 2013 and has been a member of Hub City Toastmasters ever since.

In her retirement she fosters and transport dogs to New York, competes in Toastmasters contests and spends as much time as she can with her mother.

Last year she competed against 33,000 contestants from 143 different countries and placed First Runner-up in the 2019 World Championship of Public Speaking® in Denver Colorado.

Lately, she has been attending zoom meetings for Toastmasters and has had the privilege of meeting Toastmasters from all around the world.

*(Luisa Montalvo on the World stage in 2019, being congratulated by Richard Peck International President-elect 2019-2020 Toastmasters International)*

**▶ FEATURE ARTICLE: APPRECIATION FOR DISTRICT AWARDS**

The virtual changeover dinner was held on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July 2020, and three District Awards were presented. Results for these awards are as follows:

AWARD	RECIPIENT
Area Director of the Year Award 2019/2020	Nola Sharp DTM
Division Director of the Year Award 2019/2020	Kelly Vieira DTM
District 73 Club of the Year Award 2019/2020	Servianites Toastmasters Club

Below are words of appreciation for the achievements and successes of all 3 award recipients.

**Nola Sharp DTM for achieving the Area Director of the Year**

**By Judy Murphy DTM**

You can tell that Nola loves being of service because she did not need to be area director this past year. However, as there were no willing volunteers, Nola put her hand up. She could not bear to see her area be left with no Area Director.

With her usual enthusiasm, Nola has been meeting with her area council on a regular basis, conducting her club visits and encouraging everyone she meets. Once upon a time when we were allowed to meet in person, Nola judged contests at so many places. When last minute cries went out for help in other areas, Nola would travel long distances to judge; taking with her people to help - at times even a test speaker.

Nola has embraced online meetings and has encouraged all the clubs in her area to do so. Every club still meets and each club has paid the April renewals. Healesville Toastmasters almost folded but with continued encouragement from Nola, they have renewed with 10 members. Nola has presented at club officer training and presented quite a number of educationals for clubs and for district.

The three clubs to which Nola belongs - Lilydale, Wandin and CFA D13 all value the way she leads, the way she mentors and the way she encourages everyone.

Nola deserves all the accolades which come from this Area Director of the Year 2020-21 award.

I am delighted for her as I am sure all the people who know her are.

Now for the photos:



This photo was taken at Lilydale Toastmasters in October 2013. It shows just how much fun Nola loves to share.



Nola is celebrating winning the District Table Topics Contest in 2011 at the final conference in Perth when WA was part of District 73. Nola is such a champion!



Please scan QR Code for more information about the convention



▶ **FEATURE ARTICLE: APPRECIATION FOR DISTRICT AWARDS**

**Kelly Vieira DTM for achieving the Division Director of the Year**

**By Tracy Green DTM**

Anyone who knows Kelly or has worked with Kelly knows of her passion, energy and enthusiasm for everything she does. Of course, this was no exception when it came to her role as the Ranges Division Director. In this role Kelly demonstrated what it means to be a leader, a strong servant leader, as she supported her team of Area Directors and the clubs within the Ranges division.

Part of the duties of a Division Director is to run 2 Club Officer Training events, Kelly ran 3 incredibly well attended informative and entertaining events along with a separate educational event which all represented the time and thought Kelly put into every role, every event, every meeting.

As we all know 2020 has had many challenges in particular the change from face to face meeting to online, which impacted some Division Contests. In considering the contestants experience Kelly

planned her event to ensure a safe environment which enabled contestants to feel supported and encouraged to be their best.

I am very lucky to have worked with Kelly professionally and be a part of her family network and see firsthand her kind and generous nature. Congratulations Kelly, you truly deserve recognition for your role as the 2019-2020 Ranges Division Director.



**I am a Toastmaster Day – Winning Entry from Bharat Sangekar**

Who would I be without my job title?

If I wasn't a son, a brother, a husband, a friend, a father.

Who would I be if I defied everyone's expectation of me?

Who would you be?

You are the community you belong to, you are what's in your heart, how well you express it and the lives you touch by expressing what's in your heart.

A little over 6 years ago I stepped into a Toastmasters meeting out of curiosity (ok, the wife asked me to as she had had enough of my yakety yak at home). Other than my alma mater I hadn't been a part of any community till then. Little did I know what awaited me was not only a new found passion and new doors to open, but a worldwide community that focuses on one thing and one thing only - helping each other grow.

I now belong to 3 other global communities. But today, 1 June 2020 is "I Am a Toastmaster Day" in Australia. And I am here to proudly tell you this has by far been the most giving organisation that I have belonged to.

Every week I hear people around the world, from students to business leaders, from introverts to party animals, from stutterers to captivating speakers, from ardent followers to

emphatic servant leaders share stories and insights that entertain and inspire.

Every week I speak I gain a sense of identity, I feel visible, I risk myself to be seen in all my glory.

Not to forget the friendships, sense of community and fulfillment.

If you think you need to become an effective communicator, a better public speaker, a more confident person, a better leader or fancy the idea of belonging to a community that lives and breathes personal development and growth, check out a Toastmasters club near you globally (<https://www.toastmasters.org/>) and locally in Australia (<https://d73.toastmasters.org.au/>)

#IAMATOASTMASTER



▶ **FEATURE ARTICLE: APPRECIATION FOR DISTRICT AWARDS**

**Servianites Toastmasters Club for achieving the Club of the Year**

**By Supriya Parate**

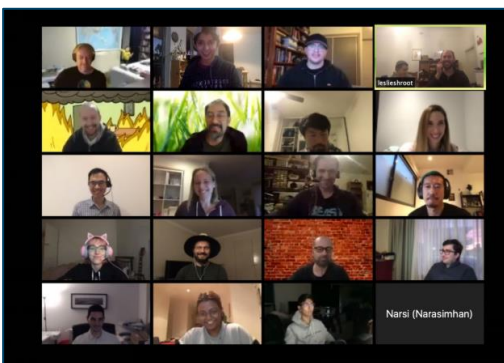
This has been a tremendous year for our club and probably the most successful one in the history of our club. Like most of the Toastmasters clubs across the globe we were greatly disrupted by the pandemic but we managed to act quickly, make executive decisions and smoothly transition all our meetings and events online.

Looking back at the past twelve months, we have achieved above and beyond the goals we set at the beginning of the year. Right from the very start, we had astonishing membership growth along with increased engagement across our membership base. We started the year with 32 members and hit 65 by June 2020. This helped us receive Membership Resiliency Award and Online Ovation Award for this year. We have also become more active in contributing to the broader Toastmasters International community by helping the organisation whenever, and wherever we can.

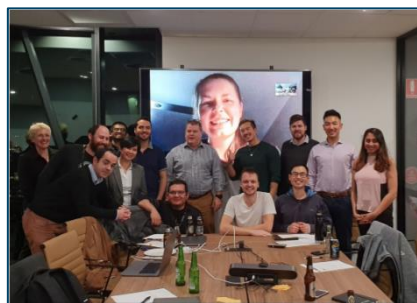
However, the crown of our success was certainly our nomination and subsequent reception of the most prestigious award as The Best Club in the

District. It definitely speaks for all our hard work, amazing dedication and enthusiasm we demonstrated over the years. As a Club President, I am extremely proud of our Club Committee and every single member of our club for demonstrating a real passion for Toastmasters over the last few years.

Last but not least, it is my absolute pleasure to congratulate Leslie Shroot one more time, who became the first member in our club history to achieve Distinguished Toastmaster and proved that hard work and dedication does pay off. Along with his incredible personal achievement, I must say that he also played a huge role in our club's success. He has been building our club from ground up since our inception, more than four years ago, and has been an integral part of our club ever since. His dedication to Toastmasters, enthusiasm and ability to spread positivity to our entire club is simply incredible and certainly helped our club become what we are today.



*A day in a Servianites virtual club meeting*



*A club meeting after a hard day's work*



*Presentation of Club Awards to 6 club members*



*Leslie Shroot giving his DTM speech - Chicken soup: meal, medicine or lifestyle*



*What a year it has been!*

▶ **MEETINGS – A NECESSITY OF LIFE – EMBRACE THEM**

**Gamini Balasooriya**  
**Eastern Division Director**



Now and then, we have coffee catch-ups with friends and colleagues. These are meetings where information is exchanged. Whilst these meetings are being frowned upon at times, they are essential as we need to socialise, since we are social beings.

Meetings are an essential evil in our daily lives and are found at home with family, at work with colleagues and elsewhere. Such meetings could last for hours in order to deal with pressing matters and they require physical attendance. Sometimes such meetings would result in a lot of frustrations as well.

There are many purposes of a meeting, and they include sharing information, gathering information, and agreeing on actionable outcomes to solve problems. For example, the recent meetings of the National Cabinet to deal with COVID – 19 outbreaks is a testament to this and actionable outcomes of such meetings are commendable.

Meetings provide a platform to explore differing viewpoints of the attendees. Meetings can also be used as a forum to reconcile and reach consensus to eliminate conflicts and foster harmony. Imagine a world without meetings; it would not be a great place to live.

Modern research reckons that we invest a large proportion of our valuable time in meetings. The research has also revealed that the corporate world is losing billions of dollars each year due to inefficient meetings. However, they are still an essential evil in our lives.

With the imposition of “Self Isolation” and “Social Distancing” rules after the outbreak of the COVID - 19 virus, meetings are to be viewed in a different perspective now. The world we are living has taken a “U-Turn”, calling for a new “way of living” our lives, coercing us to reset our way of thinking and change our habits. So, the way we work, collaborate with people and our way of life has changed, due to a change in circumstances.

In-person meetings have now become “Virtual” insisting us to be present at any time and at any place whilst crossing location boundaries virtually, cautioning us to take extra care in what we do.

With our physical movements restricted and the way of socialising, networking or collaboration with people changed, the “New Normal” is here forcing us to stay home, work from home and kids to school from home. These changes have seen a surge in the use of “Technology Platforms” such as Google Connect and Zoom. Besides that, Toastmasters meetings have gone “Virtual” as well.

Everyone is now attuned to this new normal and to depend and collaborate virtually with their families, friends and work teams over the “Technology Platforms”. At the expense of working longer hours and spending hours on “Virtual Meetings”, it has been vital for us to learn how to be productive in everything we do whilst staying physically fit and maintaining our mental well-being.

Conducting “Meetings” on the “Virtual Workspace” has become the “New Normal” during these unusual times which will likely stay here for prolonged periods and continue to evolve, affecting the way of life. Knowing this is a potential issue of “Virtualising our lives”. Thus, we have to anticipate the “Next Normal” that will demand us to rethink how we approach things and change our habits towards facing the unknown challenges.

Stay tuned for the next few articles in the upcoming Southern Cross Newsletter issues that will discuss the “Tips” and “Traps” of daily meetings.





## ▶ WHAT'S YOUR 2020-21 CHALLENGE?

“Comfortable” is where dreams go to die. Change is uncomfortable, it can be painful, vulnerable and scary, and it takes conscious effort (at least in the beginning). If you're reading this, you've already made choices in your life to be a “lifelong student”, you're seeking improvement in some aspect.

I want to encourage newer members to jump in feet first, get involved! Do the Table Topics®, take on meeting roles, attend events outside your club, compete at the contests, do as much as you can and find out what part of Toastmasters interests you most and where you want to focus your energies for now.

More experienced members can take the challenge to embrace the online meetings if you haven't already, reach out to be a mentor, take on a leadership role you haven't tried, lead the way by becoming a Pathways ambassador, put your hand up to assist at club events or to conduct a presentation! Compete in a category you haven't tried before!

The world will continue to turn whether we try or not. District 73 Toastmasters is a “safe space” to try new things, develop your skills and be vulnerable. Not only is it allowed, it is strongly encouraged and supported!

No one who is successful got there without failure. Success is achieved by trying and failing and repeating it over and over, with evaluation and feedback along the way... sounds a lot like the Toastmasters format, right?!

If you don't know where to start, ask members of your club, find someone in District Leadership to speak with, find out where all the resources are and do some research yourself, speak to “special guests” that visit your club. It's a new Toastmasters year, a chance to try something new.

What challenge will you set for yourself this year?

**Dani Streets**  
**Metro Division Director**

## ▶ THE GOOD IN BAD

Dear Toastmasters,

As the new Toastmasters year rolls in, we have much to reflect upon in 2020.

I remember back in my teenage years of this far off time (of the year 2020) and I tried to imagine what technology would bring, where I would be and what I would be doing.

I never saw this particular worldwide struggle coming. We are in the midst of much change. How do we utilise opportunities in the face of such a thing? Many of us in Toastmasters have grasped the online platforms and made new connections with others all over the world that were not possible a year ago. Zoom and other programs are now very familiar and I'm sure that we shall be meeting like this more frequently into our future with much time not wasted in travel to various locations.

I miss Toastmasters face to face physical meetings and I'm sure this feeling is shared by others. I wish to be a great speaker. I have a long way to go to achieve this and I'm sure I need a live audience in front of me to master such. Eventually, we shall return to live face to face meetings (even in Victoria) and I'm looking forward to that nervous feeling in the tummy before I have to deliver my prepared presentation.

I have taken on the role of Bass Division Director. I feel that right at the moment it is crucial that we follow as

closely as possible the Toastmasters instructions on how to gain and retain members. I certainly am not suggesting that I am an expert in this area and will be trying my best to learn the ropes. I do however, feel that right now, as much as ever, we must be kind and keep a friendly manner toward each other as much as we possibly can.

I honestly believe that much of the time we view our mistakes in the wrong way. We should actually see them as tremendous opportunities for improvement and learning. That way we can go easy on ourselves and others, with the patience it takes to be true leaders. Be upset when you are not nice to yourself; not for the mistakes we make. Try it, see how you go!

Stay safe both physically and mentally in these trying times.

**Yours sincerely, Julia Davey**  
**Bass Division Director**

## ▶ START WITH THE CLUB SUCCESS PLAN

There's something amazing in being able to make a fresh start. To wipe the slate clean, forget about the past. It doesn't happen very often but when it does, there's usually an element of risk associated with it. But that's where the adventure begins. You turn your back to the old to say hello to the new. July is a fresh start to the Toastmasters year. New club officers, new ambitions, new goals... are you ready? The answer is Yes You Are. Hello!

Some of you obviously decided to become a club officer for a reason. You are in the driver's seat (note you've also got a bunch of Sunday drivers in the back seat to assist). Area Directors. They will be knocking on your door soon to provide you with a Club Visit Report and their take on that club experience - but I digress... Area Directors offer more than just a critique of a club meeting. They are there to offer support throughout the year.

So hopefully you've had your *Club Officer Training (COT)* it's now time to work on a plan of action. Club Officers please download the **Club Success Plan** and if you are the President, have your Treasurer, VP Education, VP Membership look at it too. They have a significant role to play in the success of your club. The Plan is a few pages long but neatly divided between the

respective club officers. Get their input. It's why they're there. Co-drivers. Work as a team.

And remember you may not have all the answers, all the inspiration etc in the one hit. We can work through your Plan together one step at a time. If you feel your home club has become stagnant...perhaps its hovering at 12-13 membership base with little energy and little growth, then please reach out to your Area Director. If your club is clueless about Pathways – well, we've all been there – its OK – speak to your Area Director who will provide support for your club. Do contests scare you? Again, lean into your Area Director or Division Director. First-time clubs will be treated gently, I promise...

All of these small steps will make this year count for you – personally and professionally. This is your golden opportunity to 'start something' having fun along the way. It's time to give Toastmasters some focus by working through the **Club Success Plan** not just to get clarity for yourself but for all members who knock on our doors giving them a great start and a positive experience with Toastmasters.

**Mirella James**  
Inner City Division Director

## ▶ PATHWAYS TIPS AND TRICKS: FROM THE EDITOR

As I have completed 2 paths in Pathways, I would like to share a couple of short tips regarding Pathways and navigating Base Camp:

### Tip #1 :

You don't have to log into Base Camp to download and print an Evaluation Form. You can search for it on the [Toastmasters Website](#) without logging in

### Tip #2 :

You can skip the High Performance Leadership (HPL) project entirely if you want. There are only 3 paths that make this project compulsory in their paths

### Tip #3 :

If you can find a suitable project, you can credit a speech you delivered at work, during your course, or in other events to a project in Pathways, as long as there is a Toastmaster to evaluate your speech

### Tip #4:

Apart from the requirement of having to do the Ice-Breaker project first, and the Reflect on your Path project last in your last, it is possible to attempt projects in any order. However, it is advisable to complete them in the prescribed order

### Tip #5:

As Managing Online Meetings, a Level 4 Project requires one to either facilitate a 20 - 25 minute online meeting, or conduct a 20 – 25 minute webinar, this could be easily achieved due to online meetings being prevalent as a response to current circumstances

▶ **HAPPY 30, TOASTMASTERS!**

Mary Eggington and Colin Pickthall DTM of Hawthorn Toastmasters Club joined Toastmasters for the same reason many of us did; to practise speeches and improve their presentation skills.

It's been 30 years since the day they first walked through the doors of a Toastmasters club.

What motivated them to stay put for so many years? Besides gaining confidence through learning, they both enjoy getting exposed to a range of topics in prepared and Table Topics® speeches.

“Also, the beauty of Toastmasters lies in the ongoing support, friendship, fun and seeing new members blossom over time and achieve their goals,” said Mary.

On the other hand, Colin loves evaluations. “Feedback given using the effective praise-improvement-praise (PIP), or ‘sandwich’ method, as well as looking for the positives to compliment are very useful skills I have learned. It’s an effective way to encourage and help people improve,” he said.

People are far more willing to help you out if you can find something to praise them for first, he adds. Colin has mentored 40 to 50 people in the past 30 years.

Both seasoned Toastmasters have not only held most of the positions in the Club Executive Committee, but also took on Area leadership positions. This was the time when an “Area Director” was called an “Area Governor”.

“I was Area N3 Governor in 1997-98 and Northern Division Governor in 1998-99. Back then, I made a point to visit all 22 clubs in my Division at least twice. This included clubs as far away as Shepparton, Ballarat, San Remo, Geelong and Gisborne,” recalls Colin.

Which leads us to an obvious question – Are there any interesting memories of the 1990s you'd like to share?

“Yes”, said Mary promptly. “I remember joining Hawthorn Club in 1990 and the meeting was held at a unique venue, the Gipsy Baron Restaurant in Richmond. We were competing with the trams when speaking, or the Cuckoo Clock chiming in at the most inopportune moments.”

Outside Toastmasters, Colin enjoys gardening, working out and volunteering at the Melbourne Observatory and Astronomical Society of Victoria.

Mary, on the other hand, indulges in bushwalks, travelling, cooking, Bikram Yoga, and attending Melbourne Symphony Orchestra concerts.

Congratulations to both of you for your Toastmasters journey. The Toastmasters community appreciates your dedication and passion.

Many many more to you two!

**Neha Pandey**  
**District 73 Public Relations Manager**





## DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS

Congratulations to all members that have submitted and obtained educational awards in June 2020. **246** awards were submitted. **14** of these awards were for a DTM, **139** were for Legacy awards, and **93** were for Pathways awards. In total, **177** members and **74** clubs submitted awards.

Distinguished Toastmaster	
Name	Club
04268634 - Name unavailable	Toast of the Country Club
Adrienne Lee Bowd	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Anne Catherine Dolores Hancock	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Aurore Pont	Dandenong Ranges Club
Bernie A. Hoefler	Toast of the Country Club
Carole M. McCulloch	Indigo Speakers
Catherine MacGillivray	Wandin Toastmasters
Con Koutsikas	DWS Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Elizabeth Anne Allwood	City Centre Toastmasters Club
Emma Nicole Hiscock	Adelaide City
Jillian Bolger	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Leslie William Shroot	Servianites Toastmasters Club
Stephan Barrie	Whitehorse Club
Steven Angel	Frankston Toastmasters Club

High Performance Leadership	
Name	Club
00463209 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
Darrell E. Pitt	Carlton Toastmasters Club
Fiona B Mundy	Diamond Valley Toastmasters Club
Mangala Kodagoda	Adelaide Central

Advanced Leader Silver	
Name	Club
Anne Catherine Dolores Hancock	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Aurore Pont	Dandenong Ranges Club
Catherine MacGillivray	Wandin Toastmasters
Con Koutsikas	DWS Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Elizabeth Anne Allwood	City Centre Toastmasters Club
Emma Nicole Hiscock	Adelaide City
Jillian Bolger	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Steven Angel	Frankston Toastmasters Club

Advanced Leader Bronze	
Name	Club
02650529 - Name unavailable	Rafters Toastmasters Club
04544747 - Name unavailable	Mornington Peninsula Club
Ash Parr	Albury-Wodonga Toastmasters
Laura Martin	Hawthorn Toastmasters Club Inc.
Monica Barbu	AECOM Toastmasters Club
Rajeev N. Wadhwa	Box Hill Central Toastmasters Club
Ross H. Pepper	Dandenong Ranges Club
Trent M McNeil	Ford Australia Club

Competent Leader	
Name	Club
01099425 - Name unavailable	Northern Stars Toastmasters Club
03976920 - Name unavailable	Hawthorn Toastmasters Club Inc.
05298317 - Name unavailable	PMI Melbourne Toastmasters Club
05830092 - Name unavailable	Albury-Wodonga Toastmasters
06618096 - Name unavailable	Launceston
Anna Ruth Weissmann	Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Bibi Cassar	Carlton Toastmasters Club
Bob J Stanford	Quintessence Club
Catherine MacGillivray	Wandin Toastmasters
Christal Augustin	Williamstown Club
Danielle Streets	Launceston
Darrell C. Klar	North Adelaide Toastmasters Club
David Robert Hales	PMI Melbourne Toastmasters Club
Di Wu	Melbourne University Toastmasters
Jester Tahud	Footscray Skyline Toastmasters Club
Jillian A. Cummins	Gourmet Club
Jillian Bolger	Geelong Toastmasters Club
John J. Morrissey	Gourmet Club
Joseph Moutakis	Payneham Toastmasters Club
Judith L. Talanoa	Knox Toastmasters Club
Kristen Louise Low	Wandin Toastmasters
Marlene C. Sinclair	Knox Toastmasters Club
Michael Clancy	Carlton Toastmasters Club
Peter H. Kemp	Elsternwick
Rajeev N. Wadhwa	Box Hill Central Toastmasters Club
Ruth	Adelaide Hills Club
Ruwan Senanayake	Berwick Club
Sarah Ibrahim	Tuesday Chatters
Shannon D Phillips	Mornington Peninsula Club
Stephan Barrie	Whitehorse Club
Stephen Robert Adrian	Adelaide Central
Sue Clarke	Wandin Toastmasters
Tom Newland	Adelaide Hills Club


**DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**

Advanced Communicator Gold	
Name	Club
00463209 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
02650529 - Name unavailable	Rafters Toastmasters Club
03524093 - Name unavailable	CFA District 13
04268634 - Name unavailable	Toast of the Country Club
Adrienne Lee Bowd	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Annette Jacobsen	Melbourne University Toastmasters
Bernadette Anne McPhee	Glen Waverley Club
Bernie A. Hoefler	Toast of the Country Club
Bibi Cassar	Carlton Toastmasters Club
Catherine MacGillivray	Wandin Toastmasters
Claire M. Mehtonen	Tuesday Chatters
Danielle Streets	Launceston
Darrell E. Pitt	Carlton Toastmasters Club
Deborah M. Roffey	Moorabbin Saints Toastmasters Club
Didy Pederick	Adelaide Hills Club
Elizabeth Anne Allwood	City Centre Toastmasters Club
Eugen Bacon	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
Graham D. Fuller	Wangaratta Toastmasters
Ibrahim Champion	Frankston Toastmasters Club
Joseph Moutakis	Payneham Toastmasters Club
Leslie William Shroot	Servianites Toastmasters Club
Mangala Kodagoda	Adelaide Central
Mark Reynolds	Limestone Coast Toastmasters Club
Peter Ittak	Port Melbourne Toastmasters
Rajeev N. Wadhwa	Box Hill Central Toastmasters Club
Ross H. Pepper	Dandenong Ranges Club
Sheree Dawn Mulreany	Rafters Toastmasters Club
Stephan Barrie	Whitehorse Club
Steven Angel	Frankston Toastmasters Club
Xiang Xing Chin	Port Melbourne Toastmasters
Yvonne M Gluyas	Launceston

Advanced Communicator Silver	
Name	Club
00356634 - Name unavailable	Eastern Shore Toastmasters
Elizabeth Anne Allwood	City Centre Toastmasters Club
Elizabeth Mary Alcock	Hume Toastmasters Club
Grant King	Manningham Toastmasters
Mark Reynolds	Limestone Coast Toastmasters Club
Ross H. Pepper	Dandenong Ranges Club
Samuel A. Hall	Kew Toastmasters Club

Advanced Communicator Bronze	
Name	Club
00455973 - Name unavailable	Adelaide Hills Club
04103158 - Name unavailable	Adelaide Hills Club
Andrew Stuart Barclay	Dandenong Ranges Club
Anna Dehne	Elsternwick
Christal Augustin	Williamstown Club
Clive Jackson	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
Dmitri Grayson	Rowville Toastmasters
Erika R Silins	Essendon Toastmasters Club
Filippo Grossi	Essendon Toastmasters Club
Ian Burness	Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Toastmasters Club
Jester Tahud	Footscray Skyline Toastmasters Club
Kristen Louise Low	Wandin Toastmasters
Ross H. Pepper	Dandenong Ranges Club
Sandra L. Glass	Tooronga Toastmasters

Competent Communicator	
Name	Club
02222854 - Name unavailable	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
02650529 - Name unavailable	Rafters Toastmasters Club
04566554 - Name unavailable	505 Speakers Corner Toastmasters Club
05252959 - Name unavailable	Adelaide Hills Club
05340903 - Name unavailable	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
05449025 - Name unavailable	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
05917422 - Name unavailable	Whitehorse Club
06618096 - Name unavailable	Launceston
Amit Rishi Merwar	Mighty Docklands
Andrew Stuart Barclay	Dandenong Ranges Club
Bob J Stanford	Quintessence Club
Burcu Gunel	Flinders Lane Toastmasters Club
Carol J Knight	Cranbourne Toastmasters Club
Catherine MacGillivray	Wandin Toastmasters
Christine M. Dimitros	City Centre Toastmasters Club
Danielle L Grant	Mornington Peninsula Club
Di Wu	Melbourne University Toastmasters
Earlwin Cabantog	ANZ Off the Cuff Toastmasters Club
Elizabeth Subramaniam	WorleyParsons Melbourne Toastmasters Club
Jacqueline Brotherton	Werribee Toastmasters Inc.
Joseph Moutakis	Payneham Toastmasters Club
Judy Murphy	CFA District 13
Laura Martin	Hawthorn Toastmasters Club Inc.
Lynda Stuart	Essendon Toastmasters Club
Marnie Buller	Hawthorn Toastmasters Club Inc.
Michael R Burgess	Launceston
Mitul Naroia	DWS Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Peter G Barrett	Gourmet Club
Peter Kennedy	DWS Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Richard E. Cederberg	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
Sarah Ibrahim	Tuesday Chatters
Sarah Jame Walton	Port Melbourne Toastmasters
Tikiri Seneviratne	The Gavellers Toastmasters Club
Tom Newland	Adelaide Hills Club

**DISTRICT EDUCATIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS**



**Dynamic Leadership**

Level	Name	Club
Level 2	Bryony Berridge	505 Speakers Corner Toastmasters Club
	Heath A Gilham	City Centre Toastmasters Club
	Mai Parr	Albury-Wodonga Toastmasters
	Rajesh Kanna Madhavan	Werribee Toastmasters Inc.
Level 1	07766479 - Name unavailable	Glen Waverley Club
	Caterina Nesci	Deloitte Toastmasters Club
	Heath A Gilham	City Centre Toastmasters Club
	Kin Ho Sunny Wu	Adelaide Central



**Effective Coaching**

Level	Name	Club
Level 5	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
Level 4	Frances Sidari	Essendon Toastmasters Club
	Damian Prescott	Knox Toastmasters Club
Level 1	David Anthony Hughes	Kingston Communicators Club
	Michael Paul Jaehrling	The Hills Toastmasters
	Trent M McNeil	Ford Australia Club



**Engaging Humor**

Level	Name	Club
Level 1	Manivannan	Glen Waverley Club
	Richard John Worsley	North Melbourne
	Yulin Zhou	Servianites Toastmasters Club



**Innovative Planning**

Level	Name	Club
Level 5	Marlene C. Sinclair	Knox Toastmasters Club
Level 4	06572236 - Name unavailable	Cranbourne Toastmasters Club
	Kelly Regina Simoes Vieira	Cranbourne Toastmasters Club
Level 3	06572236 - Name unavailable	Cranbourne Toastmasters Club
	Joan Roy	Happy Hour Toastmasters Club
	Judy Murphy	CFA District 13
Level 2	Brenton Gregory Annand	South Yarra Toastmasters
	Dianne Bartelloni	Fitzroy Toastmasters Club
Level 1	05441499 - Name unavailable	Servianites Toastmasters Club
	Ben Matthew Hunt	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Carol Robyn Banks	Eastern Shore Toastmasters
	Kristen Louise Low	Wandin Toastmasters
	Michael Khan	Servianites Toastmasters Club



**Leadership Development**

Level	Name	Club
Level 4	Dinesh Desai	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Drishity Khurana	505 Speakers Corner Toastmasters Club
Level 3	Jessica Rose Kostoff	Kingston Communicators Club
	Peter F. Kenyon	Indigo Speakers
Level 2	Alexandra Grace Marshall	Geelong Toastmasters Club
	Monika Ohleiter	Latitude Toastmasters
	Tanya Shymanka	Servianites Toastmasters Club
Level 1	Lynda Roach	The Hills Toastmasters



**Motivational Strategies**

Level	Name	Club
Level 3	Debbie Rosalyn Horoba	Geelong Toastmasters Club
	Debbie Strauch	Maccabi Toastmasters
Level 2	04688415 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
	Sangho Yun	Servianites Toastmasters Club
Level 1	07313942 - Name unavailable	Knox Toastmasters Club



**Persuasive Influence**

Level	Name	Club
Level 2	00892437 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
	06770158 - Name unavailable	Indigo Speakers
Level 1	00892437 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
	Maxwell Lei	Servianites Toastmasters Club
	Sadaf Ali	Flinders Lane Flyers Toastmasters Club



**Presentation Mastery**

Level	Name	Club
Level 5	John H. Haynes	Speaking of Sustainability
Level 4	Alison Do	North Adelaide Toastmasters Club
	Danielle Jones-Resnik	Maccabi Toastmasters
	John H. Haynes	Speaking of Sustainability
Level 3	Nola Margaret Sharp	CFA District 13
	Danielle Jones-Resnik	Maccabi Toastmasters
	John H. Haynes	Speaking of Sustainability
	Katarina M Radonic	Gourmet Club
	Mandy Cooke	Geelong Toastmasters Club
Level 2	Stephen Rubis Cate	Werribee Toastmasters Inc.
	01803542 - Name unavailable	Wandin Toastmasters
	Adrian Jameson	Limestone Coast Toastmasters Club
	John H. Haynes	Speaking of Sustainability
	John J. Beilharz	Kingston Communicators Club
	Mandy Cooke	Geelong Toastmasters Club
	Seema Lal	Hume Toastmasters Club
Level 1	Suleiman Abdullah Al-Talla	Hume Toastmasters Club
	01113298 - Name unavailable	Croydon - Yarra Valley Toastmasters
	07350984 - Name unavailable	Kingston Communicators Club
	07765115 - Name unavailable	Glen Waverley Club
	Georgina Downey	Melbourne Water Toastmasters
	Jim Ainsworth	Albury-Wodonga Toastmasters
	John H. Haynes	Speaking of Sustainability
	Judy Murphy	CFA District 13
	Max Bernyk	Servianites Toastmasters Club
	Neeriem Trey Dye	Servianites Toastmasters Club



**Strategic Relationships**

Level	Name	Club
Level 3	Nola Margaret Sharp	Wandin Toastmasters
	Robyn Frances O'Donnell	Kingston Communicators Club
Level 1	Arek Rainczuk	The Hills Toastmasters



**Team Collaboration**

Level	Name	Club
Level 2	Peter Wild	Flinders Lane Flyers Toastmasters Club
Level 1	Cynthia Tjong	Box Hill Central Toastmasters Club



**Visionary Communication**

Level	Name	Club
Level 5	01203916 - Name unavailable	Latitude Toastmasters
	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
Level 4	01203916 - Name unavailable	Latitude Toastmasters
	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Lindy Woodburn	Servianites Toastmasters Club
Level 3	01203916 - Name unavailable	Latitude Toastmasters
	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Apple Wang	North Adelaide Toastmasters Club
Level 2	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Apple Wang	Raconteurs Toastmasters Club
	George Hall	Servianites Toastmasters Club
	Rick M. Finlay	South Yarra Toastmasters
Level 1	02810866 - Name unavailable	Moonee Ponds Toastmasters Club
	Paul A. Fanning	Essendon Toastmasters Club

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