

TOASTMASTERS AND ROTARY: A POWERFUL ALLIANCE TO CHANGE LIVES

I joined Toastmasters from a banking background, drawn by their tagline, "Where Leaders Are Made." I wanted to share my story, change lives, and advocate for the suffering. Initially, it seemed impossible to get speaking opportunities, but my mentor advised me to start with local Rotary Clubs. I began at the Letchworth club, progressed to London's flagship club, and eventually spoke at their Bournemouth conference. The opportunities, feedback, and kindness I received transformed my journey.

Both Toastmasters and Rotary have given me something priceless—a sense of purpose and the tools to make a difference. It's this shared mission of empowering and uplifting others that makes this alliance so extraordinary. I am so proud to be designated the Rotary Chair for Toastmasters (District 71) and to help bridge these two incredible organisations

1. Shared Commitment to Service:

Rotary and Toastmasters are united in serving humanity. Rotary focuses on life's essential needs—clean water, education, and disease prevention—while Toastmasters empowers individuals through communication and leadership. Together, they address vital human needs and equip people to lead effectively.

2. Incredible Members:

Members of both organisations strive to make a difference. For example, Rotary eradicated polio globally, and Toastmasters have helped build confident communicators who have driven social change for 100 years! Their shared passion for humanity is awe-inspiring.

3. Game-Changing Alliance:

This partnership can amplify impact. Joint efforts in youth programs, such as Rotary's Youth Movement and Toastmasters' Speechcraft, will inspire the next generation. Members can collaborate on projects, combining communication skills with service for greater global reach.

DISTRICT 71 TOASTMASTERS



4. Unique Benefits:

Toastmasters gain real-world speaking opportunities at Rotary clubs, sharpening their skills, while Rotarians benefit from Toastmasters' leadership expertise in hosting educational and charitable events. Together, they foster mutual growth and broaden impact.

5. Reviving Communication in the AI Era:

In a world increasingly dominated by AI, face-to-face communication is at risk. Losing these skills threatens collaboration and empathy. Rotary and Toastmasters provide a platform to cultivate interpersonal connections, ensuring humanity doesn't lose its ability to communicate effectively—a vital skill to protect and nurture.

This partnership inspires hope, growth, and positive change across the globe.

Let's act now to safeguard humanity's ability to communicate, connect and lead.



JILLIAN HASLAM
ROTARY CHAIR FOR TOASTMASTERS