



## NZMC Notes – Issue No 32 March April 2018

Hello all,

Welcome to the second edition of NZMC Notes 2018

### **WELCOME TO NEW CHORISTER:**

Welcome to Norm Stewart from Otaki who is a Bass one. Norm says:

**“ I was raised in the Salvation Army. From a child music has always been my passion & joy. Salvation Army Choirs are called Songster Brigades, & and I have been a Songster & brass bandsman since I was a child. For more than 60 years I have played [mostly Euphonium] in both S.A. Bands & competing "Town Bands". In Earlier years I was deputy Songster Leader at Wellington South & toured Australia twice being used as Vocal Soloist & Euphonium Soloist.**

**When I heard the NZMC first at Levin's Library, then again at Levin S.A., I thought” this is for me, if I can pass the audition”! I've now been to four Rehearsal /Concert Weekends, & am simply rapt at the fellowship, & privileged to sing & learn under Joe. Everyone has been so friendly & helpful, “I'm Lovin' It”! “**

### **FEEDBACK FROM TAUPO & KATIKATI CONCERTS:**

*Joe's comments first. “Our contribution to last month's charity concert in Taupo went well from our point of view, with the choir relaxed and performing well. Looking slightly further back to the concert in Katikati which played to a full house and was received with acclaim, we seem to be doing ok. Don't get complacent men there are more rungs on the ladder to climb yet.”*

In the Taupo concert Joe and Evelyn Falconer from Rotorua, sang, “I Could Have Danced All Night,” from My Fair Lady. Alex's accompaniment helped bring the song alive. Joe also sang a stunning performance of “Goin' Home.” The Northmen gave him a standing ovation. FANTASTIC!



Megan with choir after charity concert in Taupo.

### *A New Sky from Tony Clemow's pen*

Discount Prince Harry's Meghan Markle –  
Taupo's Meghan has more sparkle:  
sublimely lit in photo study  
this 'sunshine kid' is now our buddy.  
Behold her on her sixteenth birthday  
with men who on her local turf may  
manage vocally to raise  
her spirits with a sum that pays  
her travel fare across the world  
where legs impaired can be uncurled  
so she can stand and walk with us  
free of wheelchair, frame or truss.

As centrepiece this charming teen  
midst veteran gents commands the scene.  
See how she shines among the black.  
Perceive her smile despite her lack.  
She rich deserves a miracle  
to lift her, fixed and physical  
to horizons unencumbered  
to opportunities unnumbered.  
We pray that deftly via a knife  
she will attain a second life,  
that we can play a tiny part  
in giving her a timely start  
along a path which opens wide  
the many chances God provides.

When flying back o'er combers, foam  
like Joe and Co she's *Goin' Home*.  
Let umpteen years of bliss begin  
for fearless, dearest Miss Meghan.#

# This was written as a response to the photo of  
Meghan with the choir at the Charity concert.

Jenny Brown writes,  
*"Hi to you all, and the men in the NZ Male Choir."*

*Thanks so much for your invaluable contribution to the Bonanza Benefit Concert for Megan. The choir did us proud and we were delighted that they were the stars of the show. Megan loved it when the choir sang Happy Birthday to her and made her feel so special!  
The programme you sang proved popular with the audience Joe...thanks a lot...and Alex did a stirring job as usual, with her skilled playing; always appreciated by a discerning audience. Joe, it was super for us all to hear your talented voice singing "Goin' Home", which will serve to inspire the men in the choir for some time I'm sure. You'll all be pleased to know that with your contribution the target of K120 has been met so Megan will get her operation and be able to have her rehab. I'll keep you posted about her progress. Thanks once again."*

#### **FAREWELL:**

Last weekend the Southmen farewelled Charles Barltrop at their Rangiora rehearsal.  
*"The guys made me feel so welcome from the first practice and the fun from then on was always something to look forward to. I will keep in touch but wish the choir well for the future."*

In acknowledgement Brian Patchet presented Charles with a framed photo of the Choir at Gore, Anzac Weekend a couple of years ago.

#### **THE VOICE OF OUR MUSICAL DIRECTOR:**

*"Over the last two months, rehearsals have been very successful showing a steady improvement in the quality and uniformity of the choral sound. Preparation for the Aussie tour is just about on track with one chance to get the members into a cohesive group and polish the sound in Whanganui. I appreciate that the travelling group is prepared to get together for this rehearsal."* Joe



#### **THE TREASURERS ENTREAT:**

Fantastic effort! Only one sub still to come.

Donation receipts have been sent to everyone with a link to the IRD website so that you can download your claim form. Warwyck can help you with this if needed.

Best wishes to you all.  
John Botting, Vice President, NZMC

