

NZMC Notes – Issue No 24 – February 2017

Hi all,

Welcome back everyone and a special welcome to new guys -

South Island: Norman Phillips (B 1) Nelson

Grant Beardsley (B 2) Christchurch

Alan Ferriss (T 2) Timaru

North Island: Mark von Dadelszen (B 1) Napier

Ross MacDonald (T 2) Dannevirke

Mrs Judy Barrett – Assistant Musical Director, NZ Male Choir and Northmen accompanist.

Judy’s farewell was held in the Wanganui Central Baptist Church on Saturday 28th January 2017. The Wanganui Male Choir and members of the NZ Male Choir sang ‘Benedictus’ and a lovely setting of Amazing Grace, simply called ‘Grace’.

It was a fitting farewell for a gracious lady.

Bryan and family, the Choir wish you well as life moves on with your wonderful memories of Judy.

Management Committee Meeting – January 29th

The Management Cmte met in Napier at Maurie & Sue Smith’s home on Sunday 29th January.

\* The 2017 schedule and a draft 2018 schedule were completed. They are on the web site.

\* Patron, Bill English, may not be able to continue in this role due to his appointment as PM. Maurie following this through.

\* Certificates of Recognition to be investigated (Taffy).

\*Short tour - decided Adelaide & Sth Australia - specifics to follow. Major tour cmte to be decided later in 2017.

\* Professional Fund Raiser - Cmte of  Anthony, Warwyck, Maurie & Joe co opt Rob Crabtree to look at possibilities and point in the right direction.

\*Finance Cmte to meet 3 monthly to check payments against invoices. Cmte is Warwyck, Dick, Gordon.

\*Change to wives /partner's policy: Wives and partners will be free of charge to all our concerts where we have direct control of ticketing.

\* New members in the Ntn & Sth - current numbers, 17 Sth and 29 Nth Island. Voice assessments available to individual choristers; contact Joe directly.

\* Joe wants to do a Choir recording - looking at 2018

\*Use of folders: Joe wants to use them on a temporary basis for learning new work. As they are learnt they will be removed from folder use.

\* Music Cmte: Joe, John B., Maurie, Ian Gabites - to meet regularly to receive and deal with new music suggestions. All new music to island reps (John B and Ian G) in the first instance. Music Cmte to approve the musical direction of the choir.

Art Deco Weekend – Feb. 18th & 19th

Update from John Botting

On behalf of all choristers who participated in the Art Deco weekend and their wives, partners and families may I say a huge thank you to Maurie and Sue, Warwyck and Royce & Ray and Carol for their wonderful work organising the weekend, hosting so many and making sure everything ran smoothly. Thanks too, to chauffeur Bryan Barrett.

The weekend was memorable and, I think the concert was too. A very solid rehearsal with Joe and Alex on Saturday morning highlighted inefficiencies and mistakes.

We then sang to a full house in our 4pm concert and the Sweet Adelines sang 2 brackets of songs between our three. It was exciting having 3 students from Karamu High School act out some batting, bowling and catching in their whites during "Short Leg, Long Leg and Silly Mid-off" and Blair Latham's tenor sax embellishment was a highlight in the finale - "When the Saints go Marching In."

The Choir will receive an appearance fee of $2000.00 and, we hope, an invitation to return in 2018 !

Comments from Joe,

It was a very successful concert and the choir stepped up well on the day. Sunday morning was also a success with a strong contingent singing Benedictus, He Honore and Blessing in St Patrick's Catholic Cathedral Napier for the Art Deco service, which was another packed house.

The congregation applauded after each song (which always seems odd to me in a church service) and then Father Paul congratulated us on beautiful singing and asked the whole choir to stand and take a bow to a further round of enthusiastic applause.

Tenor Sax player, Blair Latham, a Wellingtonian who was in town for the weekend to play at the Old Church, was great.

Encores are an issue, which I need to address but we were already 10 minutes over time on the concert so leave them wanting more.

I received comments from people who have heard the choir before that they enjoyed the nuance of colour and dynamic we are creating and I feel our ensemble sound is constantly improving.

John Botting

Vice President

NZMC