



THE NATIONAL MALE CHOIR OF NEW ZEALAND Inc.
MINUTES of
Annual General Meeting held on Monday, October 23 2017
At the BK Motor Lodge Conference Room
Palmerston North at 9.00 a.m.

- 1. Present** Maurie Smith, President, Warwyck Dewe Treasurer, J Christensen [Music Director] A. Baber, J. Botting, D. Brown, K. Brown, N.Collie, T.Clemow, T. Davies, I. Doel, J Fisher, R Fuller, I. Gabites, P. Grey, R Gunston, J. Kember, G. Keelty, A. King, T Leahy, O Lane, J. Masters, D. Mitchell, B. Patchett, N Phillips,T. Ross, N. Sawyer, R. Seymour, G. Simpson, A. Smith, A. Townley, M von Dadelszen, Royce Dewe [secretary]
- 2. Apologies** G Willemsen. M Marshall, R Mc Donald, D Spier, R Curr, R Sedgely
- 3. Acknowledgement of Deceased Member - Alan Ferriss & Judy Barrett Deputy Music Director**
Members stood in silent remembrance of Judy and Alan Ferriss, who passed away in the past year.
- 4. Minutes of Meeting held on Monday 24, October 2016** which had been circulated were confirmed as a True and Correct Record.
Moved Maurie Smith; seconded Dick Mitchell
- 5. Matters Arising from Minutes** No matters arising

6 President's Report

Maurie Smith presented his report as President. Maurie reflected on the passing of Judy Barrett and her huge contribution to the choir over many years. Over this year we have increased our growth by 8 new members with 2 resignations. In particular, Maurie acknowledged the resignation of Mick Elley, an original choir member, section leader & thanks to Pat for the funds raised with marmalade.

He outlined the importance of practice as a personal responsibility for each member of the choir in order to achieve the standard and quality fitting for NZMC. He thanked the Management team and Tour committee [Ian Gabites, Gordon Keelty, Taffy Davies, Warwyck Dewe] for the huge contribution and time that they give. In acknowledging Rob Crabtree having taken responsibility for the web site, Maurie acknowledged the remarkable contribution that Anthony Joines had given to the choir over past years.

2017 has seen 8 very successful concerts across the country.

- Havelock North, Dannevirke & Waipawa [labour weekend 2016]
- Art Deco concert & Church service - Napier
- Morrinsville
- Wairapa
- Waimate
- Palmerston North, Levin & Feilding [labour weekend 2017]

The appointment of a new and dynamic MD and Music Team in the North & South has built on the success enjoyed over previous years and the choir coming to terms with phonetics and a new music language with the ability to tell an interesting story in song. Maurie encouraged members to enlarge on the new skills and remember to raise eyebrows in order to live the words and melody with movement... show the enjoyment - Live a little dangerously.

A special thanks to Neville Sawyer & Robin Gunston for the organisation of the weekend concerts and to the stalwarts – Philip Grey, John Kember, Dick Mitchell and many others who together make an awesome team. Thanks to Warwyck for the many hours as treasurer and to Royce as secretary.

Maurie finished with a recognition that the choir was in good shape and enjoys a family bond that not many organisations have the opportunity to nurture and grow. 'We are The New Zealand Male Choir and I am very proud to be a member.'

Maurie Smith MOVED the Adoption of his Report, SECONDED Tony Ross

7. Financial Report

Treasurer **Warwyck** Dewe spoke to the accounts which had been circulated.

These showed a Deficit of \$1300 for the period year ended 31 March 2017.

Warwyck explained the increased costs in travel & accommodation are to do with a change in Music Director and his geographical location

Warwyck Dewe MOVED the Adoption of his report SECONDED Ian Doel.

2017-2018 Budget

Warwyck presented a Budget for the coming year. This was based on approximately 44 members and showed a small deficit. This deficit could change depending on concert proceeds and grants. It was noted that the amount of monies available from gaming trusts has reduced significantly in recent years.

8. Subscription for financial year commencing 1 July 2018:

Motion MOVED by Treasurer Warwyck Dewe – seconded Maurie Smith. Carried.

That the annual subscription for active members of the NZ Male Choir for the year commencing 1 July 2018 be \$125.

9. Music Director's Report –

Joe in his report said it was a pleasure to work with a group that brings such enthusiasm and a willingness to learn & improve to the rehearsal and the performance.

Highlights have been

- Getting the choir to hear and feel a thread of sound that rings around the room.
- Tune/voice match by moving people around in Masterton with Taffy using an oscilloscope app on his phone.
- A Rangiora practice with 2nd basses sitting in a circle and tuning to a perfect low 'F'
- Great audience reactions
- Great camaraderie of the choir

Joe thanked the leadership team and their supporters and to the choristers and their individual support teams. 2018 will be a busy year and with an emphasis on raising the bar and the importance of bringing our ears and eyes to every rehearsal and performance.

**Music Director Joe Christensen Moved the Adoption of his Report
Seconded Robin Gunston CARRIED**

10. Librarian's Report

John Kember South Island Librarian said all was going well.

Dave Spier had been most helpful with coordinating the music and ensuring that new members received the music.

11. Election of Officers

- **President** **Maurie Smith**
- **Vice-President** **John Botting**
- **Secretary** **Royce Dewe re - elected**

