



NZMC Friends Newsletter – November 2024

Kia ora all, on behalf of the Management Committee, we are pleased to provide this quarterly edition of our NZMC Friend's Newsletter.

We have had a busy year with our trip overseas and some additional concerts in New Zealand.

Europe Tour

We had a marvellous time on our European tour that many of you followed on our facebook site. Our singing venues ranged from a snowy mountain tops accessed by gondola, inland crystal blue lakeside, forest castles and of course a range of beautiful old churches and performance spaces.

As part of the Alto Pusteria festival we gathered, paraded and sang with over 80 other choirs from all over the world, an inspiring experience.

We also got to visit some spectacular sights such as the Colosseum in Rome, a walled township in Germany, the beautiful canals of Venice and many other sites and experiences.

As with all tours it had its highs and lows and apart from the odd bout of covid and other flues we survived well and never lost a member...well at least we think we didn't.

Our 2025 Programme

For your information here is the program for the next six months and we would love to see you when we are in your area. Also, if you can recommend anyone to join us, they are very welcome to join any of our rehearsal weekends to meet us. More detailed information is available on our website (<http://nationalmalechoir.co.nz>) or contact our secretary secretary@nzmalechoir.co.nz.

Concerts	Rehearsals
Napier Art Deco - 15 February Hamilton - 24 May	Morrinsville 25-26 January
	Christchurch 1-2 February
	Rotorua 8-9 March
	Christchurch 22-23 March
	Palmerston North 12-13 April
	Christchurch 26-27 April

Art Deco Weekend

We are heading for another wonderful time in Art Deco performing as part of the festival. We have learnt (well most of us!!) a number of new songs for the choir which offers a great mix of repertoire and enjoyment for all. Look forward to seeing you there!!

Farewell to a number of Choristers

Due to a range of reasons we have lost a sad number of choristers recently including: Norm Collie, Roger Brown, Ken Brown, Don Battley, Frank Sargent, Chris Featonby, Doug Higgins, Cliff Lawrence, and Bruce McLean. Its not been easy for the choir losing so many good members and friends but as many of you know membership has its ebbs and flows. We say farewell to these men and we thank them for their friendship and dedication.

Choir Operating model

Over the 25 years of the Choir from time to time the Choir has faced challenges and has needed some change to address those challenges. Today is no exception.

We are currently faced with falling and aging membership more than at any time in our past and a change is required if we are to continue.

At the last AGM the Choir Committee was tasked with presenting a new operating model that is financially secure and allows the Choir to continue and develop in the future.

To achieve this we see three key objectives which we intend to address in a staged manner which will allow us to focus on key priorities in a managed way.

Stage 1: Secure our financial situation for the next 6-12 months.

This is our priority. If we can't do this we will cease to be viable.

Stage 2: Develop an improvement model to lift the choral musicianship standard of the choir.

In respect to stage 3, develop our choral musicianship improvement journey both from an individual and choir perspective.

Stage 3: Develop a longer-term operating model for the choir that will be financially sustainable

This will focus on how we can operate in an affordable and sustainable manner that enables taking into account our revenue and liabilities and acknowledging our need for choral musicianship improvement and to attract new membership.

So change is afoot and we are aiming to rebuild the Choir over the next 12-24 months with a higher standard of musicianship that will attract new and younger members from the wider NZ Choral network, and establish a more sustainable future for the Choir.

We would still love to hear from you !!

We welcome contact with all past choir family members. We would love to hear how you are going and invite you to our concerts or practices when we are in your region. Please make contact and update us on your contact details as well so we can keep in touch.

Choir Contacts

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Kind regards to you all and hope you and your families have an enjoyable festive season. We look forward to seeing some of you as we venture around the country.

Ray Seymour

President New Zealand Male Choir
Te Roopu Waiata Tira Tane O Aotearoa