

# Male Choirs Association of Australia

## ***Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of the Male Choirs Association of Australia held via Zoom on Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> May 2021.***

**PRESENT:** Neil Fleming Australian Rugby Choir in the chair.

Keith Gooley (Adelaide Male Voice Choir)

Ken Mascord, David Bryars (Arcadian Lamplighters Male Choir)

Neil Kinsey, Lew Wilson (Australian Welsh Male Choir)

Peter O'Driscoll, Sid Ford (Cantorion Sydney Male Choir)

Paul Whiting, Bruce Sharpham, John Gallo (Ku-ring-gai

Neil Forrest, Christopher McRobert, Evan Patton, Stephen Coombe (Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia)

Tom Coghlan, Ron Brown (Sydney Male Choir)

David Kennedy (Orange Male Voice Choir)

Judy Ferguson, Brian Buckley (Wagga City Rugby Male Choir)

Les Williams, Gary Rogers (Wellington Male Choir)

### **APOLOGIES**

David Bonner (Perth Male Voice Choir)

David Mundy (Wagga City Rugby Male Choir)

**Minutes of the 2020 Annual General Meeting** read and confirmed by Neil Kinsey and seconded by Paul Whiting as correct. Carried.

**Presidents Report.** Tabled having previously circulated to member choirs. Moved Neil Fleming and seconded Neil Kinsey. Carried.

**Treasurer's Report:** Tabled as circulated to choirs before the meeting.

The amended report was accepted when it was pointed out that two transactions pertaining to the 2020 Financial Report had been placed in the 2021 Financial Year.

The amended report reflected the current financial position as per Bank Statements.

Moved Peter O'Driscoll and Seconded by Ron Brown. Carried. See attachment.

### **OFFICE BEARERS FOR 2021.**

**PRESIDENT:** Neil Fleming

**VICE PRESIDENT:** Peter O'Driscoll

**TREASURER:** Sid Ford

**SECRETARY:** Brian Buckley

**COMMITTEE:**

Tom Coghlan

Lew Wilson

Neil Forrest

Bruce Sharpham

Paul Whiting

**WEB MANAGER:** Peter O'Driscoll

**PUBLIC OFFICER:** Ron Brown

Neil Fleming thanked Ges Hogg (AWMC) retiring Treasurer, Ken Mascord retiring Committee person and Phil Tomlinson (Melbourne Welsh) for the service that they had provided to the Male Choirs Association as Treasurer, Committee member and Web Manager respectively. Phil's contribution to the M.C.A.A. was over a decade starting with his work as co-convenor of the 2012 concert in Melbourne.

The AGM concluded at 1.55 p.m.

## **Minutes of the General Meeting of the Male Choirs Association of Australia held following the 2021 AGM.**

Attendance and Apologies as per the AGM.

Neil Fleming welcomed Neil Forrest to the meeting, noting that the Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia had expressed an interest in hosting the next Choral Festival to be held (hopefully three years hence depending on COVID).

The facility of having a credit card with two signatories with the St George Bank was investigated and was found to be not available with the Bank.

### **Minutes of the 2021 Meeting.**

Moved by Neil Kinsey and Paul Whiting Seconder. Carried

### **Matters Arising from these Minutes:**

**Because of the meeting being held via Zoom, much of this meeting was held in camera rather than following strict formal procedures**

Neil Fleming pointed out that on Page 3 the reference to the program for the 2020 concert should read "2012 Melbourne concert and not "2012 Sydney Concert."

**Treasurer's Report:** As per the A.G.M.

The signatories for the M.C.A.A. Bank transactions had not been finalised despite the forms being lodged with the St George Bank.

It was resolved that Neil Fleming and Ron Brown would liaise with each other to finalise this matter. The signatories to the Account would remain as the President, vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer. Access to the accounts of the M.C.A.A. would be limited to these four Office Bearers.

Two signatures would be required for all payments.

The problems that 2021 Treasurer Ges Hogg had with the internet connection to the M.C.A.A. accounts was discussed.

### **The Organisation of the Sydney Concert:**

The Sydney Organising Committee had met twice this year. Peter O'Driscoll gave a brief report on these two meetings. Tom Coghlan spoke to the Events Schedule document; and what was completed and what remained to be completed.

Brian reported that he had correspondence from Metropolitan Male Choir of South Australia and the Perth Male Voice Choir. Both choirs would not be attending in 2021. Also Victoria Welsh Male Choir had indicated that they had commitments in October 2021 which would prevent them attending. Jervis Bay would not be attending. As a new choir they have had insufficient practices to get to a proficient performance standard.

Neil Kinsey spoke of the concern that Melbourne based choirs and interstate choirs had with respect to border closures and the willingness of choristers to attend in October.

The Sydney Town Hall Events Management is looking to finalise a contract for the Festival, or else return the M.C.A.A.'s deposit that was paid in 2020. Their policy is not to hold monies for organisations who have not entered into a contract for a performance.

Neil Fleming stated that as President, he had been reluctant to commit the M.C.A.A. to a contract where the Association could lose its deposit if the Association found that it would have to cancel the contract within three months of the concert.

It was decided to proceed with the agreed follow-up survey of all choirs with regards their attendance in October 2021; to seek chorister numbers for October 2021; the preference of each choir to a concert in the March-April 2022, should it be not feasible for the October 2021 concert to proceed /or for a choir to attend in March/April 2022; the number of choristers who would form the massed Choir; the sectional break-up of each choir; the numbers who would be likely to attend the Captain Cook Sydney Harbour Cruise.

The survey would be due for return to the Secretary by C.O.B. on 30<sup>th</sup> May, so that a response could be made to the Sydney Town Hall that week.

The Concert Charity will be decided closer to the date of the Festival.

The suitability of the Festival including 'Nothin' Like A Dame' was raised by M.M.C.S.A. While empathising with the reasons for their concern, it was decided to include this song in the Festival repertoire.

Ron Brown requested \$47 be approved so that he could lodge the Annual Return with the N.S.W. Department of Fair Trading. This was seconded by Neil Kinsey and approved on the voices.

Meeting closed at 3.00 p.m.