

Public Primary Schools Music Society Annual General Meeting

President's report 2022

It is with great pleasure that I report on the work of the Public Primary Schools Music Society over the last 12 month period.

As the newly appointed President at the AGM 12 months ago, I wish to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge the leadership of the immediate past President, Stephen Measday and thank him for his commitment and contributions to the Society. We have appreciated Stephen's ongoing support of the Society as a member of the Board during 2022.

The Society Board has continued to provide governance and support to the staff team over the past twelve months. The work of the Board is made much easier as a result of the outstanding knowledge, skills, work and commitment of Irene, Robyn and every staff member who work tirelessly throughout the year to ensure the delivery of a high quality program which culminates in the Festival of Music Concert series.

2022 saw the FOM concert series return to the Festival Theatre after a number of interrupted years. Whilst the start to the year was once again COVID interrupted, we were grateful that we were able to have children performing to appreciative audiences in September.

Once again the concert series was impacted by things out of our control. No-one could have predicted that the passing of Her Majesty the Queen would impact our concert series! Once again Irene, Robyn and the staff team did what they do best and found creative solutions to ensure that every student continued to have the opportunity to perform on the Festival Theatre stage. Whilst not all schools took up the offer to perform in a different concert, they were all provided with the opportunity. This was as a direct result of the extraordinary efforts of Irene and her team.

On behalf of the Board, schools and Society members, I thank Irene and Robyn for their leadership, and the staff and volunteers for their ongoing commitment to the work of the Society. The success of the FOM is a direct result of their contributions to, and promotion of, music education in our member schools.

One of the significant pieces of work for the Board in 2022 was working on the transition of the Society to a Public company limited by guarantee resulting in being granted status as a not for profit organisation. We look forward to this work concluding in early 2023. We thank all those who contributed to this successful outcome. This status enables the Society to attract additional funding which will support the continual expansion and improvement of our choral program.

Another significant piece of work which continued in 2022 was the exploration of the current MoAA between the Society and The Department for Education. This work is ongoing.

We thank Irene, Kristin, Kendall and Kirsty Henning for their ongoing work to ensure our financial processes are transparent and provide the Board with accurate information of our financial position as required.

As a result of COVID, the delivery of the ordered vehicles was delayed. To hasten the process a decision was made to purchase from Mazda as they were able to provide the vehicles without further significant delay.

As a result of the change of Chief Executive Officer in the Education Department, Irene and I met with Martin Westwell to provide him with an emerging understanding of the relationship between the Society and Department. We look forward to continuing to strengthen this relationship over time. We continue to appreciate the support of the Department and look forward to finalising the MoAA in the near future.

In conclusion, I wish to thank the members of The Board for their contributions and commitment to the work of the Music Society and look forward to another productive year in 2023.

Terena Pope

President