

Public Primary Schools Music Society Annual General Meeting

President's report 2023

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 President, I wish to take this opportunity to publicly acknowledge and thank Irene and her team for their ongoing commitment and contributions to the work of the Society.

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.

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.

2023 saw the FOM concert series on the stage at the Festival Theatre once again, thankfully, with significantly less controversy than 2022!

The work of transitioning the Society to a Public company limited by guarantee resulting in being granted status as a not for profit organisation continued throughout the year.

We can now announce that this work was recently completed.

We thank all those who contributed to this successful outcome. As you may be aware, this status enables the Society to attract additional funding which will support the continual expansion and improvement of our choral program. So if anyone is looking for a worthy cause to donate to, please feel free to donate to the Society. We will now be in a position to apply for a range of grants. Once again, if you become aware of a grant opportunity or know a business that may be interested in entering into a sponsorship arrangement, please let a member of the Board know.

At the AGM last year I reported that the MoAA between the Society and The Department for Education was a continuing piece of work. Unfortunately, this work has been an ongoing feature throughout 2023 and is yet to be completed.

Irene and I recently met with Ben Temperly and Tracey Davies to discuss how this can progress and look forward to attending a meeting to discuss this further in the near future.

I have been made aware that Kirsty Henning will not be continuing in the role as Treasurer following this meeting. On behalf of the Board and Society members, I want to acknowledge and thank Kirsty for her willingness to work with, and support Society staff, to ensure our financial processes are transparent and provide the Board with accurate information of our financial position as required.

Irene and I met with Martin Westwell last September to provide him with an update on the work of the Society and the Festival of Music. It will be important for us to continue to build his understanding and strengthen the the relationship between the Society and Department.

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 2024.

Terena Pope

President