

CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S ANNUAL REPORT – 1 January to 31 December 2020

This report includes comments on:

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1. OUR PEOPLE

We were thrilled to see so many of our choral community recognised in the 2020 Queen's Birthday honours: National Cadenza Coordinator and NZCF Otago Treasurer John Buchanan (MNZM); choral singer, conductor, and music educator Maria Winder (MNZM); NZCF Canterbury committee member and educationalist Lois Chick (MNZM); inaugural NZCF Vice-President, former NZCF Canterbury Chair and NZCF Life Member Nan Anderson (QSM); founder of NZCF Bay of Plenty branch and NZCF Life Member Coreen Gray (QSM); and Big Sing choral director, educator and composer, Ella Buchanan Hanify (QSM).

2020 saw the passing of two NZCF members who had been instrumental in establishing the Choral Federation in their region: Jenny Butlin and Paddy Nash. Jenny was President of the Bay of Plenty branch of the NZCF during the 1990s, representing the region at NZCF Annual General Meetings. Paddy was Administrator of the New Zealand Youth Choir from 1985-1988 and worked with others to establish the Wellington regional branch of the New Zealand Choral Federation in 1985. She also played a key role in the formation of the Wellington Youth Choir and the Kapiti Chamber Choir. Paddy's contribution to the choral scene in New Zealand was recognised with a Queen's Service Medal in 1988.

We also note the passing in 2020 of Wellington region committee member John Shrapnell, and well-known choral director and former Manawatu-Whanganui committee member Stephen Rowley. Both men made significant contributions to choral music in their respective regions.

We were proud and delighted that our immediate past Chair, John Rosser, was elected to the Board of the International Federation for Choral Music (IFCM) in December 2020. John's election reflects his standing in the international choral community and, in particular, his work as Artistic Advisor in preparation for the 2020 World Symposium. We know he will be a passionate advocate for choral music in our region.

Elizabeth Crayford stepped down from the role of National Coordinator of The Big Sing in 2020 and her position was absorbed into the new Events Manager role. Elizabeth has given exceptional service to The Big Sing for over 12 years, both as National Coordinator and as Wellington regional coordinator, and has devoted a great deal of energy and passion to the festival. NZCF owes a considerable debt of gratitude to her for her superb administration of our flagship event.

a) Patron: Dame Patsy Reddy GNZM QSO DStJ

NZCF is pleased that the current Governor-General of New Zealand, Dame Patsy Reddy, continues to serve as Patron for our organisation.

b) Officers and staff

Governance Board

We farewelled two members of the Governance Board in May 2020 - Shona McIntyre-Bull and Rosemary Turnbull - both of whom had served on the Board for six years. Shona had been a staff member in the early years of NZCF and, as a Board member, held The Kids Sing portfolio. Rosemary had a long involvement with TBS choirs prior to joining the Board and later served on The Big Sing National Committee. We are grateful to both Shona and Rosemary for the invaluable contribution they made over their two terms on the Board.

We were pleased to welcome Pete Rainey and Megan Hurnard to the Governance Board in May 2020. The wisdom, experience and fresh perspective they bring to the table has proved immensely valuable. The New Zealand Choral Federation is very grateful to the members of the Governance Board, and especially to our Chair Juliet Dreaver, for the significant amount of time and energy they devote to the promotion of choral music in our country.

| Juliet Dreaver | Chair |
|--------------------|---|
| Warwick Harvey | Vice Chair; Governance processes |
| Toby Gee | Legal & Constitutional; Diversity & Reach |
| Megan Hurnard | The Kids Sing |
| Michael Littlewood | Finance & Constitutional |
| Pete Rainey | The Big Sing |
| David Squire | Association of Choral Directors; Youth |
| Robert Wiremu | The Big Sing; Diversity & Reach |
| | |

Staff in 2020

| Christine Argyle | Chief Executive |
|------------------|---------------------------|
| Cathryn Wyllie | Operations Manager |
| Emma Billings | Events Manager |
| Jenni Prentice | Accounts Manager |

We were delighted to welcome Emma Billings (formerly Operations Manager with Choirs Aotearoa) into the role of Events Manager in February 2020. Although many of the events originally planned for 2020 were ultimately cancelled, Emma very quickly proved herself to be a valuable asset to the team in what was a challenging and unpredictable year.

Cathryn Wyllie retired in December 2020, after four years as Operations Manager with NZCF. Cathryn was a highly efficient and dedicated member of the team and played a vital role in managing NZCF through the period of Grant Hutchinson's illness and death. Cathryn's support of the NZCF membership, management and Board, and her superlative event management skills have contributed enormously to NZCF's success over the past four years.

Ann Gibbard was appointed to the role of Finance and Membership Manager in December 2020, taking over the membership tasks from Cathryn and the finance responsibilities from our former Accounts Manager Jenni Prentice, who left to take up a new position in December. Ann's experience as a chartered accountant and business consultant is greatly valued by NZCF.

Steffan Sinclair continued to offer professional accounting advice throughout 2020 and worked with Ann to prepare the annual accounts for our auditor Mark Campbell. Steffan will now step down altogether, as Ann is able to provide fully professional accounting advice to NZCF. We are hugely grateful for Steffan's contribution to NZCF over the past nine years.

NZCF regional committees in 2020

The NZCF Chairs and committee members from the ten regions are crucial to the Federation delivering its busy programme and services, and the Board and National office are hugely indebted to the work of our dedicated volunteers around the country. The Chairs of each region are also members of the NZCF National Advisory Committee.

Jayne Tankersley stepped down from the role of Chair of the Waikato-Bay of Plenty region in 2020, having led the regional committee since 2015. Jayne has been a passionate advocate for choral music in her region and brought a great deal of energy to the role. We were delighted that Elizabeth Pilaar, an equally passionate choral champion, agreed to take on the position of Chair in 2020.

NZCF Auckland

Penny Christiansen (Chair), Jessica Wells (Secretary), Rowena Janes-Post (Treasurer), Vanessa Felix, Amelia Giles, Eveline Harvey (TBS Coordinator), Blake Scanlen, Rachel Young (ACD rep).

NZCF Waikato-Bay of Plenty

Jayne Tankersley (Chair & Secretary), Maria Colvin (Treasurer), Elizabeth Murray & Jeremy Whimster (Big Sing Coordinators), Sean Kelly, Hannah Bryant, Elizabeth Pilaar, Ann-Elise Miles, John Mullon.

NZCF East Coast

Alison Thomson (Chair), Pam Kesby (Secretary), Glenys Kempshall (Treasurer & TBS Coordinator), Ngaire Shand (TKS Coordinator), Georgina Cole, Barbara Morris, Kathleen Rowe, Joanne Stevens.

NZCF Manawatu-Whanganui

Roy Tankersley (Chair & TKS Coordinator), Stanley Barnes (Treasurer), Guy Donaldson (Secretary), Carrol Donoghue, Anne-Marie Gray, Gillian White, Ann Peake, Edwyna McDonald, Karen Hall (TBS Coordinator).

NZCF Taranaki

Colin Bright (Chair & Treasurer), Carol Chapman, Beth Hockey, Jeff Grange, Jenny Sorensen (Secretary), Tim Steedman, Judy Tulloch, Juliet Woller (TBS Coordinator).

NZCF Wellington

Elizabeth Crayford (Chair & acting Secretary), Heather Armishaw (Membership Secretary), Shawn Condon, Patrick Geddes, Lynda Hunter, Katie Macfarlane, Greg Maxted (Treasurer), Monika Smith, Ken Trass.

NZCF Nelson-Marlborough

Lucy Rainey (Chair), Stephanie Trevana (Secretary), Anne Tucker (Treasurer), Robin Randall (TBS Coordinator), Hilary Sinclair (ACD rep), Rosemary Shaw, Robyn Sheves, Christianna Stewart.

NZCF Canterbury-West Coast

Rosemary Fisher (Chair & TBS Coordinator), Christine Brennan (Secretary/Treasurer), Helen Charlton (ACD rep), Lois Chick, Caitlin Godfrey.

NZCF Otago

Carole Randall (Chair), Rhys Thorn (Secretary), John Buchanan (Treasurer), Rosemary Tarbotton.

NZCF Southland

Christine McLeod (Chair), Sarah Rae (Secretary), Jane Blackmore (Treasurer), Alan Menzies (Big Sing Coordinator), Michael Buick, Michael Forde, Shona Thompson.

As ever, the organisation continues to operate at a high level through the tremendous goodwill of many hundreds of volunteers.

2. MEMBERSHIP

The total number of Personal members of NZCF (including ACD members) rose to 560 (compared with 517 in 2019). This upward trend builds on the total of 447 Personal & ACD members in 2019. The vast majority of new individual members joined as members of the Association of Choral Directors and we are pleased to see an ongoing increase in the recognition of the benefits of joining this professional body within NZCF. The growth in ACD numbers is a reflection of the added value in 2020 of the ACD Facebook page, Facebook Live Q&As and Zoom sessions. Numbers of Member Choirs have remained relatively static, with 204 choirs in 2019, compared with 203 in 2019. This retention of Member Choirs is particularly heartening given the impact of the pandemic on choir activities in 2020.

Covid-19 advice and support to membership

In May, NZCF held a Q&A session with leading NZ epidemiologist Professor Michael Baker via Zoom/YouTube on the specific risks posed by group singing with regard to the spread of Covid-19. NZCF received a great deal of positive feedback on it from members, member choirs, Australian colleagues who tuned in, NEWSZATS (NZ Association of Teachers of Singing) and the Song Leaders Network.

NZCF published guidelines for safe practice in rehearsals on the website and these were updated each time there was a change in levels and were also emailed directly to our member choirs.

We connected our membership to overseas studies, webinars and articles via our Facebook pages and via a partnership arrangement with the American Choral Directors' Association for free 1-year membership for our ACD members. This relationship has enabled ACD members to access a wealth of professional development materials on the ACDA website, including a whole section dedicated to Resources for Choral Professionals During a Pandemic.

NZCF undertook a survey of member choirs and individual members to gauge the impact of Covid-19 on their wellbeing and their choir's ongoing viability. 82 member choirs took the survey with, 91% reporting they had had to cancel concerts in the first half of 2020, 64% saying their choir had experienced 'significant' loss of anticipated income, 57% had experienced other cost implications of Covid-19 such as a drop in membership subscriptions and ongoing costs for honoraria, rehearsal venue hire, and music hire. 23% felt the loss of income their choir had suffered as a result of Covid-19 could impact on their choir's viability.

In response to the financial impact on choirs, NZCF ran a webinar in August on Creative NZ funding opportunities for choirs and how to construct a successful application. The Q&A session was conducted on Zoom and streamed to the NZCF YouTube channel, with the NZCF Chair and CE asking questions of CNZ arts directors Rose Campbell (Music & Opera) and Briar Munro (Community & Youth). Member choirs were encouraged to send in questions in advance or to text them or write them in the chat box on the night. Feedback following the webinar was that it had been very useful. The video remains available for viewing on the Funding page (under Resources) on the NZCF website.

3. FINANCES

In 2020 NZCF accounts resulted in a consolidated deficit of \$82,104. A surplus of \$52,583 from NZCF National and \$7,510 from NZF Regional branches has been offset by a deficit of \$142,197 by Symposium 2020 Ltd. Consolidated accumulated funds are \$667,633, with \$339,402 belonging to NZCF National, \$243,555 belonging to the NZCF Regional branches, and \$84,676 belonging to Symposium 2020 Ltd. This leaves us in a strong position for 2021.

NZCF National

The surplus of \$52,583 is due to events not being run in 2020 (The Big Sing Regionals, Cadenza and Finale, and several ACD events). Funding received for these events was able to be retained, despite a reduction in costs from not running the events. Instead, some of this funding was put towards several digital initiatives throughout the year. Funding from Creative New Zealand increased from \$169,088 in 2019 to \$223,000 in

2020. National Office costs have increased from \$206,816 to \$239,099 due to higher personal costs following an increase in staffing levels in 2019, offset by a reduction in travel costs. National Accumulated Funds have increased from \$286,819 to \$339,402 as a result of the surplus for the year.

Symposium 2020 Ltd

The deficit of \$142,197 is due to a reduction in income as a result of the cancellation of the event and the return of registration fees to those already registered, resulting in operating costs not being covered. Total Accumulated Funds have decreased from \$226,873 to \$84,676 due to the return of income in advance. The remaining accumulated funds are a result of grants received that were not required to be repaid on the cancellation of the event. These funds will be put towards the preparation for the World Choir Games in 2024.

4. FUNDING AND SPONSORSHIP

a) Creative New Zealand funding

2020 was the first year of NZCF's 6-year funding agreement under CNZ's Tōtara Investment Programme. CNZ acknowledged that we were not able to deliver on several of our planned activities in 2020, namely The Big Sing regionals, Cadenza and Finale, as well as some regional SingFest and Kids Sing festivals, but appreciated that we ran a number of online and outreach activities instead.

Feedback on our December 2020 report to CNZ indicated that NZCF had met expectations in 2020, had made a strong contribution to arts sector capability, and had delivered to CNZ's commitment to diversity.

b) Ministry of Youth Development funding

We were advised in early 2020 that our contract with MYD for annual funding of \$62,250 would be rolled over to the end of 2021, after which we would need to apply again through their contestable funding round. We have recently been advised that funding has been rolled over for yet another year, to the end of 2022. MYD will run a contestable open tender process from September this year for contracts covering the period from 2023 onwards.

Youth Outreach Programme

In February 2020, NZCF was successful in applying for funding of \$25,000 for a one-off Youth Outreach programme. Workshops were delivered to a total of 158 singers in fledgling secondary school choirs in Whangarei, Wanaka, West Coast and Hastings with the aim of encouraging future participation in The Big Sing. Some of this programme could not, ultimately, be delivered in 2020 so NZCF has brought forward \$5,000 of this funding to support further youth outreach in South Auckland in 2021.

c) Tour Time sponsorship

NZCF and Tour Time agreed to suspend their partnership agreement in 2020, given the cancellation of The Big Sing, and to extend the current 3-year agreement by an extra year through to the end of 2022. We are very grateful that Tour Time has renewed its commitment to The Big Sing in 2021, given the severe impact of Covid-19 on the tourism industry.

d) Other partnerships

Despite the impacts of the pandemic, both Trinity College London (NZ) and a new partner, KBB Music, confirmed their commitment to supporting The Big Sing in 2021.

5. THE BIG SING (TBS)

The cancellation of The Big Sing was hugely disappointing for us, and we know it was devastating for thousands of secondary school singers and conductors around the country who work towards this event each year. During and after the national lockdown, we worked on implementing a range of alternative events for secondary school choirs. These included the following:

The Virtual Sing

180 secondary school students from Whangarei to Invercargill took part in this virtual choir project during lockdown. Wellington conductor Brent Stewart was engaged as Artistic Coordinator and made an arrangement of the Alfred Hill & Ngāti Maniopoto waiata *A te tarakihi*. He and NZCF Board member David Squire prepared rehearsal files for the students to practise to at home. Brent also drew up instructions detailing how students could record their own part and submit their recordings. A professional video editor and sound engineer were engaged to mix all the individual videos together into a stunning, imaginative video representing students in their bubbles all over the country. A massive vote of thanks goes to our Chair Juliet Dreaver for managing the video production process and to our Events Manager Emma Billings for coordinating the project.



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z2ToLsNGU4g&list=RDz2ToLsNGU4g&start_radio=1&t=15

The Online Sing

We were delighted that a total of 478 students from 28 secondary school choirs (with a nationwide spread from Kaitaia to Invercargill) took part in our YouTube showcase, The Online Sing. We curated the choir recordings into three playlists, with each item introduced on screen, and held watch parties for the students on both YouTube and Facebook over three nights in November. Sincere thanks, once again, go to Emma Billings, Juliet Dreaver and Brent Stewart for their work on this project.

The Mini Sing

We attempted to offer multiple smaller-scale secondary school choral festivals called The Mini Sing in four regions: Hastings, Waikato, Otago and Wellington. All except one – The Mini Sing in Lower Hutt – had to be cancelled when gatherings were limited to 100 (and Auckland was in lockdown) in August. This was extremely disappointing for the schools and students involved, as well as for the local Big Sing coordinators who had worked hard to try to make these happen. Once back in level 1, schools were focused on assessments and re-scheduling was not an option. 92 students from six colleges took part in the Wellington Mini Sing and celebrated being able to join together in song again. Our thanks to Rosemary Russell and Sacred Heart College in Lower Hutt for hosting this event, and to Elizabeth Crayford for liaising with the schools that took part.

NZCF/SOUNZ award

We received compositions from 13 students coming from 12 different schools spread across Auckland, Hamilton, Masterton, Wellington, Nelson, Christchurch and Dunedin. They covered a range of styles and the adjudicator, David Hamilton, was impressed by the high standard. David awarded a 1st place, two 2nd equal places, a Highly Commended and two Commended places.

6. THE KIDS SING

Four of the six TKS festivals planned for 2020 were able to proceed. These were held in Tauranga (previously scheduled for Hamilton), Wellington, Hastings and Palmerston North and saw a total of 1522 primary school students taking part. Feedback from teachers was enormously positive, saying how much they appreciated the opportunity for their choirs to perform. Our heartfelt thanks to TKS coordinators Roy Tankersley (Palmerston North), Anya Nazaruk (Wellington), Hannah Bryant (Tauranga) and Ngaire Shand (Hastings) for making these events happen in a challenging year.

Kids Online Singalong

In addition to The Kids Sing, we devised a project called Kids Online Singalong to provide an opportunity for primary school choirs anywhere in the country, especially hoping to capture those who did not have a Kids Sing in their region. This was a video project presented in collaboration with MENZA (Music Education New Zealand Aotearoa). The project was open to New Zealand primary and intermediate school choirs and involved each group learning the same piece, recording it, and sending it in so that we could create one massed virtual choir from all the videos to share on the NZCF YouTube channel. The piece we chose was *We Are One* by Sophie Brown, a Year 12 student at Epsom Girls' Grammar. *We Are One* was the winning entry in the 2020 Hook, Line and Sing-A-Long competition, run by the New Zealand Music Commission in partnership with MENZA.

344 young singers from 9 primary schools took part and we were delighted with the resulting video which produced by a professional video editor and graphic artist. A link to this delightful video is here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XaOLhB5hRoA. Sincere thanks to Emma Billings for coordinating this project, and to Juliet Dreaver for managing the production of the video.

7. SINGFEST

We are pleased to report that four of the five SingFests planned for the 2nd half of 2020 went ahead. These were held in Palmerston North, Invercargill, Dunedin, and Christchurch. Only the Taranaki SingFest was unable to be rescheduled due to insufficient uptake from local choirs.

The Christchurch SingFest was held largely outdoors and was expanded from the 2-day event of previous years to a 10-day celebration of choirs around the city. A total of 24 choirs (including school choirs who had missed out on The Big Sing) and 1000 choristers gave 47 live performances to a total of well over 2000 people. Alongside the live performances, videos of 38 choirs, involving over 2500 choristers, were projected in the Great Hall of the Arts Centre and were viewed by around 500 people.

The Otago SingFest provided a performance opportunity to choirs of all ages, from children's choirs through to adult ensembles, the Manawatu-Whanganui SingFest attracted local media attention, with an article published on Stuff, and the Southland SingFest was a joyful celebration of the chance to sing together again.

8. THE ASSOCIATION OF CHORAL DIRECTORS (ACD)

a) Committee

Three new ACD National Committee members were appointed in 2020: Megan Flint, Brent Stewart and Mark Stamper. The 2020 committee members were David Squire (Chair), Karen Grylls, Helen Charlton, Sue Densem, Jayne Tankersley, Megan Flint, Brent Stewart, Mark Stamper, Christine Argyle (CE) and Cathryn Wyllie (Operations Manager).

b) Fine Tuning

Three Fine Tuning workshops for secondary school choirs went ahead in 2020 in Christchurch, Blenheim and Motueka. A total of 6 schools benefited from these workshops with David Squire and Brent Stewart.

c) Giving Direction

Two Giving Direction workshops for conductors were delivered in 2020, one in Christchurch with David Squire and the other in Hawkes Bay with Brent Stewart. Feedback from both workshops was very positive.

d) Primary Mentor Training

Five new primary choral mentors worked with Megan Flint in order to be able to deliver our previouslynamed Primary Gestures workshops in the future. Geographical spread was a key consideration in selecting these new mentors, with two from Auckland (Maria Winder and Mary Cornish), one from Palmerston North (Nigel Tongs) and one from Christchurch (Rachel Wilford), and one from Dunedin (Ben Madden). The mentors and Megan agreed these workshops should be re-named Singing Matters, since the focus will be wider than conducting gestures and more about facilitating group singing in primary schools, whether that be in assemblies, the classroom or in a choir.

e) ACD video channel

A further three videos of presentations from the 2019 Choral Connect convention were made available to our Association of Choral Directors members in 2020. They featured presentations by renowned choral conductor Elise Bradley, early childhood music educator Julie Wylie, and vocal coach Catrin Johnson. These videos are a valuable addition to the ACD video channel.

f) ACD Facebook group

NZCF hosted weekly Zoom sessions for ACD members during lockdown, to enable choir directors to share tips for working online and to generally support each other. These were enormously popular. After emerging from lockdown, the frequency of Zoom sessions reduced to monthly and topics covered included NZ repertoire, warm-up exercises and technology advice. The number of members of the Facebook group grew from 128 at 1 January 2020 to 188 at 31 December 2020. Members of the group (open to all ACD members) regularly pick each other's brains via the page, asking each other for specific ideas or advice.

Four Facebook Live Q&A webinars were held in 2020 via the NZCF ACD closed Facebook group. The first (1 April), was with Ben Parry, Music Director of the National Youth Choir of Great Britain and was watched live by 97 ACD members, some tuning in from overseas. The second webinar (29 April) with Brent Stewart was on running online rehearsals and making the most of technology. This was particularly timely during lockdown. The third Q&A session (24 August) featured Megan Flint on children's choirs, and the fourth (17 November) was with three of New Zealand's top choral vocal consultants, Morag Atchison, Catrin Johnsson and James Harrison.

Our thanks go to ACD National Committee members Jayne Tankersley, Helen Charlton, Sue Densem and David Squire for spearheading the activity on the ACD Facebook page.

9. INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

12th World Symposium on Choral Music

The cancellation of WSCM2020 in March 2020 was a huge blow to NZCF and to all the choirs and delegates from around the world who were looking forward to what would have been a spectacular showcase of choral music right here in Aotearoa New Zealand. I wish to acknowledge the enormous quantity and exceptional quality of the work invested in preparing for this event by John Rosser (Artistic Director), Kylie Sealy (Festival Manager), Juliet Dreaver (Relationships Manager), Cathryn Wyllie (Administrative Assistant), and Symposium 2020 Board members Michael Littlewood and Warwick Webb.

In the April 2020 edition of eBreve I wrote "The legacy of the connections we have made around the world and throughout the country in the lead-up to WSCM2020 will endure, and the knowledge and expertise we have gained will be put to good use in the future." Little did I know....

13th World Choir Games

In June 2020 NZCF was approached by ATEED (Auckland Tourism, Events & Economic Development) and MBIE (the Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment) to consider putting in a bid to host the World Choir Games in 2024. A feasibility study was conducted and following multiple NZCF Board meetings on the topic, it was agreed NZCF should prepare and submit a bid. John Rosser, Kylie Sealy, Juliet Dreaver and I worked on the contents of the bid, in conjunction with personnel from ATEED (now Auckland Unlimited) and MBIE, and with extensive consultation with the NZCF Board. After an intensive process involving numerous Zoom meetings with the agency running the bid process and the event owners, Interkultur, we received the exciting news that we had won the rights to host the 13th World Choir Games in Auckland in July 2024. We were thrilled to announce this to our membership shortly before Christmas.

10. CONCLUDING REMARKS

2020 began with an air of excitement and anticipation as we approached the hosting of the 12th World Symposium on Choral Music. By late March it was apparent that the global COVID-19 pandemic would prohibit the mounting of any international events until New Zealand's borders could re-open again, and the future of massed events within New Zealand was also uncertain. For NZCF, the third week of March started with the cancellation of the World Symposium and ended with the cancellation of The Big Sing. By April the effects on our member choirs were evident and we knew that 2020 was going to be a very challenging year for us all.

During lockdown, our member choirs and singers demonstrated incredible resilience and a strong sense of community. This was also a period of innovation, as NZCF and its member choirs found new ways to connect and continue singing. We emerged from the lockdown with a renewed sense of the value of our artform and the importance of choirs as communities of wellbeing.

We only have to look at choirs and choral organisations around the world to realise how fortunate we were to be able to return to rehearsals and performances in the second half of 2020 (albeit with some further disruptions for our Auckland members). As of May 2021, singing together in person is still not possible for our colleagues in the US, the UK and Europe.

The events of 2020 have taught us to never underestimate the value of group singing as a deeply enriching artform and a vital contributor to individual and community wellbeing.

Ngā mihi nui

Anothine argupte

Christine Argyle Chief Executive New Zealand Choral Federation Te Kotahitanga Manu Reo o Aotearoa