

Orange Male Voice Choir Inc.

Annual General Meeting

7.00 pm, Monday 7th February 2022

Orange Regional Conservatorium, Hill St, Orange

MINUTES

President D. Kennedy declared the meeting open at 7.13 pm.

1. Attendance and Apologies

Apologies were received from P. Mullins, B. Middleton, B. Nash, S. May
The record of attendance is in Attachment 1.

2. Minutes of the 2021 AGM

The minutes of the previous AGM on 8 Feb 2021 were read by the Secretary, D. Woodside.

MOTION: That the minutes of the 2021 AGM be accepted.

Moved: D. Woodside Seconded: K. Fishpool Carried

There was no discussion. The motion was carried on the voices.

3. President's Annual Report

President David Kennedy presented his report (Attachment 2). He noted that the year's activities had been curtailed again by COVID but looks forward with greater confidence to 2022 with two major events in the first six months. Our valuable ongoing relationship with ORC was acknowledged. David also drew attention, among other matters, to the critical need to rejuvenate our numbers with recruitment of new members and the ongoing need to manage risk COVID risk effectively. He thanked everyone for their diverse contributions throughout the year.

MOTION: That the President's report be accepted.

Moved: D. Kennedy Seconded: D. Woodside Carried on the voices.

4. Treasurer's Report

Michael Priest presented the annual Treasurer's report to the meeting (Attachment 3). Michael noted that our inactivity was reflected in the imbalance of income against expenditure but the major concerts planned for this year will hopefully redress this trend. The president invited questions of the Treasurer. None were forthcoming.

MOTION: That the Treasurer's report be accepted.

Moved: M. Priest Seconded: C. Mills Carried on the voices.

5. Appointment of Patrons

D. Woodside informed the meeting that Paul Jarman is keen to continue as an involved and dynamic patron. New city mayor, Jason, Hamling, is yet to respond to our invitation. We expect to hear from Alwyn Humphreys in due course and anticipate his continuation as a patron. Former patron Russell Turner has relinquished his patronage as he steps away from public life. We have thanked him in writing for his many years in the role. We learned in December of the death of Norm Penhall, our patron and major sponsor. We have written to his family expressing our deep gratitude and condolences.

MOTION: That Paul Jarman, Alwyn Humphreys and Orange City Mayor be re-appointed and appointed (as appropriate) as patrons, the last two subject to their acceptance.

Moved: D. Woodside Seconded: D. Harvey Carried on the voices

6. Election of Officers and Committee Members

The President vacated the chair and invited Rob Westcott to conduct the election of Committee members.

Nominations were received for two executive positions and three for general committee as follows:

President: David Kennedy

Secretary: John Mealings

General Committee: K. Fishpool, S. Jackson, D. Woodside

Further nominations for Vice President and Treasurer and two additional general committee members were invited from the floor. None were forthcoming. The Committee will endeavour to fill these positions.

MOTION: That the above nominations be accepted.

Moved: R. Westcott Seconded: D. Harvey Carried.

Appointment of Public Officer

M. Priest agreed to remain in this position.

MOTION: That M. Priest be re-appointed to the position of Public Officer.

Moved: D. Kennedy Seconded: J. Read Carried.

7. Rowland Gregory Service Award

D. Kennedy advised that we were departing from our usual practice of making this award at the Annual Dinner (postponed by COVID) and outlined the process for selecting the recipient. He prefaced the presentation by remarking that many members make valuable contributions to the Choir and some during the course of many years. Ken Fishpool is one such member who has served the Choir in executive capacities as well as in many practical ways as well and continued to do so after only recently returning from significant ill health. Ken accepted the award and thanked the Choir commenting that the rewards for his efforts in assisting OMVC had always outweighed any effort or sacrifice on his part

8. General Business

Honorariums. The President requested that Phil Rees absent himself from the meeting while these were discussed. In recommending honorariums of \$2500 for the Music Director and \$2000 for the Accompanist (see Attachment 4), he informed the meeting of the process and the careful consideration by the Committee in setting both figures which are commensurate with the 2020 payments and based upon numbers of rehearsals completed in the period, other work completed and the difficult conditions attaching to her role in Elina Yasumoto's case. He commended the figures of \$2500 and \$2000 respectively for MD and Accompanist to the meeting for endorsement. These were unanimously accepted for payment by the meeting. Elina's work in Sydney has increased but she is keen to maintain her association with the Choir as performance accompanist. K. Fishpool commented that perhaps Rachael Brooking might be approached to play at rehearsals.

Bogle/Jarman Working Party. R. Rochelli, K. Fishpool and D. Harvey have all indicated a readiness to join D. Woodside to plan for the June concerts. Further expressions of interest were sought by the President without result.

Recruitment & Membership Working Party. D. Kennedy spoke to the dire need for us to address declining numbers, indicating that we have reached a tipping point with realistic numbers of 22 or less. Some members have recently taken leave while others are currently beset by adverse health. The Bass section in particular is vulnerable due to retirements, leave and illnesses. D. Kennedy wishes to lead this group and will be joined by P. Rees and M. Priest.

9. Closure of the Meeting

The Chair closed the meeting at 8.01 pm.

Attachment 1

OMVC AGM 2022 Record of Attendance

D. Woodside
P. Rees
D. Kennedy
D. Harvey
J. Mealings
R. Westcott
S. Jackson
D. Prince
K. Fishpool
P. Reid
C. Mills
D. Bradley
M. Priest
R. Davis
R. Rochelli
J. Read
J. Mullen
P. Reid
B. Stanford

Attachment 2

ORANGE MALE VOICE CHOIR INC.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING - 7 Feb 2022

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

With a humble start in the ORC carpark and under the cloud of Covid-19, we embarked on a hopeful journey through 2021, with our new Conductor, Philip Rees, and Accompanist, Elina Yasumoto. We did manage to rehearse successfully for the first half of the year and enjoyed celebratory winter concerts on the weekend of Barry's "farewell". This also gave the Choir an opportunity to pay tribute to the Life Members who'd retired in 2020 (Uel and Harold Balcomb, Alan Grant, Jim Heron and Morrie Dally).

Our important relationship with the Orange Regional Conservatorium strengthened in 2021 with outgoing Treasurer, Michael Priest, coordinating donations of over \$3,200 to sponsor new risers and a male vocal scholarship. This was awarded to former member, Joseph Trumble, with whom we look forward to performing during the year.

During the year we also honoured the lives and families of late member, Ian McIvor, and of Denis Gregory, the son of the Choir's founder, Rowland Gregory. It was unfortunate that we could not similarly pay tribute to Norman Penhall. His sudden passing marked the end of his and his late wife, Deidre's, long friendship with and sponsorship of OMVC.

The second half of the year was frustratingly muted as different strains of Covid progressively moved into the Central West, increasing the likelihood of infection spreading at rehearsals and performances. The whole community was affected but choirs couldn't "sing out loud, proud or strong". The MCAA Festival was cancelled and not being able to perform left us stranded, without a purpose.

Let's commit to make 2022 memorable for other reasons. We have two big musical events to look forward to: the *Overture* choral concert at the new pavilion in Parkes on 2 April and another weekend of Bogle/Jarman magic on 24-25 June. The DVD of the 2019 Bogle concert was published and will be available for sale at concerts this year, but we still have to produce our promotional video of *Friendship*. The MCAA Festival in Sydney has also been rescheduled for the weekend of 29-30 October this year.

Although the highly infectious, less pathogenic Omicron strain is now widespread in and around Orange, we should be able to sing together more this year. Effective booster vaccination largely prevents the main health effects of Covid-infection. However, the strong and deep breathing that goes with singing remains a risk, and our age and health profile is a liability; so, we will still need to be careful (absenting oneself when sick or a close contact, hand hygiene, spacing, etc). The new Management Committee will take members' views into consideration in reviewing and updating OMVC's Covid policy as risk changes during the year.

Currently, the critical component of successfully managing the risk to ourselves, our families and our community is maintaining high levels of immunity, both as individuals and as a choir. I would strongly recommend that all choristers have their booster vaccination before rehearsing and performing.

The number of active members in the Choir has been falling in recent years and we must rejuvenate the membership with new and younger men. The Bass part in particular needs strengthening, with Life Members, Don McDonald and Tom Fenton, having retired in 2021, and others taking leave. Hence an agenda item for this AGM is establishing a recruiting and membership working group. The Choir will also need to make new arrangements for an accompanist as Elina's family and work commitments in Sydney have increased.

I would like to thank all members of their patience and support during the past disrupted year. Thank you to those who took responsibility for all the other jobs that help OMVC "click", from organising social activities and supporting members' welfare through to copying sheet music and locking-up. Thanks also to Mike Collett for making his church available for rehearsal.

Finally, sincere thanks to Phil and Elina for sharing their musical talent with us as our Conductor and Accompanist and to the members of the Management Committee for their careful consideration and guidance of how best to look after the Choir's interests this year. In particular, I must again thank our Secretary,

David Woodside, who retires after three dedicated years in that role. The secretarial position has faced many unexpected challenges, to which David has passionately applied himself.

Thank you for the honour of being President of OMVC over the past year and best wishes for 2022.

David Kennedy

President 2021

Attachment 3

OMVC ANNUAL TREASURERS REPORT 2021

Opening Balances 1st Jan. 2021

Orange Credit Union S1 A/c	\$2,974.52
Orange Credit Union S1.1 A/c	\$1.35
Orange Credit Union S1.2 A/c	\$4.61
Orange Credit Union S97 Cash Reserve A/c	\$16,855.62
Orange Credit Union Term Deposit	\$17,639.94
Total Cash Assets	\$37,476.04

Closing Balances 31st Dec. 2021

OCU S1 A/c (Working A/c)	\$4,498.16
OCU S1.1	\$1.35
OCU S1.2	\$4.61
OCU S97 (Cash Reserve A/c)	\$11,489.79
OCU Term Deposit	\$17,789.90
Total Cash Assets	\$33,783.81

Income 1st Jan. to 31 Dec. 2021

Membership Fees	\$1,303.00
Music Fees	\$780.00
Donations	\$330.00
Annual Dinner	\$1,655.00
Bank Interest (Total all Accounts)	\$180.08
External Grants (Cadia)	\$3,500.00
Total Income	\$7,748.08

Expenditure 1st Jan. to 31 Dec. 2021

Registrations/Licences/Subscriptions/Insurance	\$1,033.84
Donation to ORC for risers	\$1,500.00
Honorariums	\$2,500.00
Member Services (printing/badges/zoom etc)	\$2,690.32
Annual Dinner	\$1,980.00
ORC Annual Vocal Scholarship	\$1,740.00
Transfer of funds from S1 A/c to S97 A/c	\$600.00
Total Expenditure	\$12,044.16

Michael Priest
Honorary Treasurer
20-Jan-22