

The Addaline

Sweet Adelines New Zealand Region 35

November 2015

ISSN 1176-872X



REAL WOMEN - REAL HARMONY - REAL FUN



EDUCATION AT CONVENTION: SUNDAY 1 MAY 2016

We are fortunate enough to have two International Faculty members with us in the 2016 Region 35 Panel! Kim Vaughn and Diane Porsch will bring their wealth of knowledge in our art form to this fabulous Education Day for all of our Region 35 members. Ensure you stay with us through till at least 5pm to spend time with two of the best teachers in our organisation.

RISING STAR 2016

AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND

www.risingstarquartetcontest.com

JULY 13
— 2016 —

I want to say thank you to all the leaders.
Regional Management Teams, Chorus Directors, Section Leaders, Team Leaders, Coordinators and committees – in fact, everyone who leads.
I know the challenges you face and I am grateful that you are willing to serve and accept the responsibility and the ups and downs of leadership.
We would not survive without you! Onward and upward!



Thank you

Marcia Pinvidic

Sweet Adelines International President

Education & Events are continued on pages 4-5! Check out the exciting info for AHA, Rising Star and the Pan Pacific Youth Contest!





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Cover photo: Greater Auckland Chorus in Las Vegas © Read Photography
 NZ Contest photos by Dan Childs Photography
 Las Vegas International Contest photos © Read Photography

Message from Mabel

“No matter the age, music is a point of connection that transcends differences. It breaks down all exterior barriers and reveals our commonalities, the music, the friendship and the ability to perform at the most elite level.”

The above quote is taken from an article written in the April Pitch Pipe about The Era of Generation Barbershop and we all agree with these sentiments.

Recently I attended Nelson Bays Harmony Chorus’s 20 year Celebration and was privileged to be there for their special public concert that day and their celebratory dinner and afterglow that evening.

Like most of our Region’s chapters they have held successful new member nights and it was great to watch these brand new members perform up there on the risers. First step in their Sweet Adeline journey.

We can all remember the special feeling we got the very first time we sang to the public as a newbie member of our chorus.

During the concert I doubt if any of the audience that day would have been able to pick out the new members. I did because I had sat in on their rehearsals pre

show and it was wonderful to see them perform and become part of the unit. Their rather forced performance faces as the first pitch blew, quickly changed to genuine uplifted smiles as their confidence grew and they loved every minute of it.

It’s great to have new members sung in but never forget the hard work our music teams put in getting them there and the ongoing mentoring, support and encouragement that comes from more seasoned members who stand weekly on the risers too. They are the backbone of all our choruses committed to the aims and aspirations of their Directors and Management Teams. Value the contribution and passion for the craft that they bring to their chorus each week.

Oh yes and what an “afterglow.” Nelson Bays Harmony held lots of past members, founding members, present day members and guests there. It was such fun. Singing, sharing, side splitting skits, harmonising. We all had a ball!

Oh and there was one skit that.....but my lips are sealed!

In harmony, Mabel

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The poster features the Sweet Adelines International logo with a bird holding a treble clef. The text reads: 'AHA A CAPPELLA HARMONY ACADEMY Auckland 2016', 'SAVE the DATE', 'JULY 15 - 17, 2016 UNIVERSITY OF AUCKLAND', and 'REGISTRATION OPENS JANUARY 2016!'. A small box in the bottom left corner says 'JUL 15'.

AHA 2016

Sweet Adelines International is bringing this fabulous event to New Zealand!

There's not one, not two, but five International Faculty Members coming to our side of the globe!

All members are invited to partake in this fantastic educational opportunity. YOU get to select the classes that appeal most to YOU! You don't have to be on a music team, visual team, a director or assistant - we want each and every single member to have the opportunity to grow and succeed in our wonderful art form!

THE FACULTY

Betty Clipman

Joining Sweet Adelines and a quartet revolutionised my life.

Becoming an International Quartet Champion brought me so much more than a gold medal and a crown!!!! It seemed to permanently alter my DNA. Good singing became my passion, my avocation and eventually my career. No matter how much I volunteer my time and knowledge to Sweet Adelines as a judge, faculty member, committee member, Queens College faculty and/or coach, I'll never be



able to give back more than I've received from being a member of Sweet Adelines and the Coronet Club.

Sharon Babb

A native of Missouri but a resident of Boulder, Colorado, for most of her life, Sharon is a retired high school English teacher and principal, an avid reader, a lucky wife of Carl for 45 years, the mother of two grown sons, a wannabe gardener, a never-to-wanna-be cook, a sought-after emcee, a novice arranger, and a Sweet Adeline to the bone.



She joined the Centennial Chapter in Boulder in 1969 under the direction of Sylvia Alsbury and has been an active and devoted Sweet Adeline ever since. She was the co-director of the High Country Chorus when they won the International Chorus Championship in Honolulu. She has also directed Skyline, Mountain Melody, and Colorado Spirit! She has also served as a chapter and regional administrative leader, a member of the Region 8 faculty, a certified judge in both sound and music, a past judge specialist in Sound, the current judge specialist in Music, a member of the Education Direction Committee, the first master faculty member, a past International Board member, the 2013 Life-Time Achievement

honoree, chorus and quartet coach, and always and forever - a baritone.

Marcia Pinvidic – SAI International President

In the 36 years that Marcia has been a Sweet Adeline she has steadily developed an extraordinary set of music and people skills, a commanding presence, a signature style and engaging humour, an ear that hears everything and a toolkit that allows her to bring out the best singer each of us has within. She is a visionary with a remarkable ability to create a mural, one brush stroke at a time. Whether it be in her role as director, coach, judge, judge specialist or international music faculty associate, the essence of Marcia is her generous soul - she gives and gives with love, passion and a profound respect for others. Though she would never see it this way, by letting her light shine, she allows each of us to do the same. The horizon has never been brighter.



Sandi Wright

Sandi has taken her 'road show' from nearly every state in



PAN PACIFIC YOUTH HARMONY FESTIVAL 2016



Bringing together 25s and under who share
a love for a cappella singing.

Two days jam-packed with competitions for quartets and groups including the International Rising Star, Pan Pacific Under 26s, and Regional High School Contests.

Join in, have fun, learn, and be inspired by the very best youth a cappella and barbershop talent from across the Pacific.

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#YouthHarmony2016



America to Canada and Europe! Contemporary, honest and down-to-earth, she brings her lifelong love of barbershop harmony to members of barbershop organisations (Sweet Adelines International, the Barbershop Harmony Society and Harmony Incorporated) as well as pageant participants, youth harmony festivals; show choirs and a cappella jazz choirs.

She has a rare gift and ability to communicate with every level of musician - the brand new singer, as well as the most seasoned teacher. Her presentations are interesting, different and full of audio-visuals, audience participation and singing! Sandi especially loves working with young women. When young people hear their first overtone and get excited at locking a chord, I relive that same thrill with them. Sandi was active in beginning the Young Women In Harmony program, and organised the Sweet Teens, a group of singers from the gang-infested areas of urban northside St. Louis, which was sponsored by Sweet Adelines International and Girls Incorporated.

Paula Davis

Paula Davis is currently our President-Elect.



Paula Davis is honoured to soon be serving as our Sweet Adelines International President. She is also a member of the International Board of Directors, a Certified Expression Judge, and International Faculty Member as well a Chorus and Quartet Coach.

Paula also serves as the Musical Director of Song of Seattle Chorus in Seattle, Washington.

A High School Choir Director for 15 years, she now enjoys teaching, serving, singing and having fun with Sweet Adelines from all around the world.

It is her passion and purpose to encourage and inspire women to discover and give their best in every performance and throughout life.

BARBERSHOP QUARTETS: (Wednesday 13th July)

- Rising Star
- Pan Pacific 25 and under men, women, mixed
- NZ Regional Contest boys and girls

A CAPPELLA GROUPS

- A cappella groups 25 and under men, women, mixed
- Barbershop choruses 25 and under men, women, mixed
- NZ Regional Chorus Contest boys, girls

PAN PACIFIC
CATEGORIES



It's official! We are 20!

In September 1995 Nelson City Chorus received its Sweet Adelines International charter, after two and a half years of learning to sing together in barbershop style, plus a mountain of paperwork.

Since then there has been a name change, three changes of director, many comings and goings and this September we celebrated the 20th anniversary of that momentous event. Four of the members who were at that first celebration are still members of the chorus and several more have moved to other choruses.

So on the 20th of the month, we had a day to celebrate. Former members came from far and wide to watch a concert, dine and party in true Sweet Adeline fashion with an Afterglow full of items and mass singing. It's amazing how many of the old mass songs you remember if you stand beside someone who is a current member.

The variety concert featured Revelry (who performed their amazing Resthome package), Men in Accord (Nelson's men's barbershop chorus), Uke'n'Duet (a comedy ukulele duo comprising a current and a former chorus member), a school

choir (we've had several of these over the years in shows; they bring a different audience and sometimes a new member) and, of course, we had an opportunity to present our own Whale package again.

After dinner we had a parade of chorus costumes, with much laughter and "do you remembers", especially with the older ones. Former quartets got together to show off their costumes and sing and can it be a Nelson Bays Harmony event without skits? Just ask us about potential emcees for next year's regional contest. Then there were photo boards, history books and

just plain chatting and reminiscing. And what's a birthday party without a cake, beautifully decorated and ceremonially cut by our three remaining founding members!

We have grown from 16 to 41 in numbers and enormously in singing and performance skills, thanks to many people who have coached us over the years. As in every chorus, women have discovered talents they never knew they had and blossomed as a result of their being part of this amazing group.

Roll on the next five years when we'll have another excuse/reason to celebrate!

**JANET ROWLAND,
CO-DIRECTOR,
NELSON BAYS HARMONY CHORUS**



Framed: three of our newest chorus members, Carole, Tina and Paula.



Cutting the birthday cake are foundation members Wendy, Janet and Marion.

Living those Hollywood moments

I'm Linda Kerr, a bass in Christchurch City Chorus and one of the proud cohort who came in 6th in Hawaii 2013, my first ever Sweet Adeline Convention! I've since gone on to receive a first place medal at the 2015 Region 35 Convention in Auckland, so I really am a very lucky rookie.

Although Vegas One SAI Convention is still in the air, at Christchurch City Chorus we are well on our way to preparing for the international stage at Vegas Two. We've already had Lynne Smith choreographing over a weekend and our package is sounding great already due to the fabulous teaching that we receive from Virginia Humphrey-Taylor, the team at Christchurch City Chorus and of course all of the fabulous visiting coaches. Already this year we've had Jim Arns, Renée Porzel and Ryan Heller – unbelievable.

But you can have the best teachers in the world (and we do) and the best teaching resources (we do) but if you don't have that fire in your belly to be the best you can be, then is this all a waste of time?

“What if you've got that little voice in your head telling you that your one small voice isn't important or your face is just one in a crowd?”

My mother would tell you that I am the quiet, shy one (stop sniggering those who know me!). As a child I was very introverted and loved to get lost in my books and in movies on Sunday afternoons. I was a big fan of 40s and 50s Hollywood; I loved the glamour of the big dance numbers, the costumes and the way characters would spontaneously start singing songs that everyone knew (no rehearsals!), who could forget Gene Kelly bursting into 'Gotta Dance' in 'Singing in the Rain'?

Reader, I have to tell you I have lived those Hollywood moments in my Sweet Adeline life. I have stood on a massive stage and burst into song. I have danced across the stage in my sequined costume telling my story to the audience. But none of

it has come naturally or easily. I've had to try to silence the little voice in my head that says “you can't do this” and the strategy I've used is my alter-ego or my second self.

My second self is such a confident woman, wow she is fantastic. She's a bit Ethel Merman - she's a bit Barbra, Celine, Judy and a bit Gene Kelly – take your pick.

I would urge everyone to get a second self – she is terrific and she loves you and she wants to play and doesn't care about the washing up or creaky knees - she wants you to shine as much as that big medal on your chest.

**LINDA KERR
CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS**

AD



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Export Quality: Patti Cooke, Barbara Letcher, Chris Reynolds and Jan Smith.

PATTI COOKE

How did it all begin for Barbara? She was listening to the radio one day and heard someone talking about women's barbershop and how they needed women with low voices to come and join the Harmony Belles Chorus. She was intrigued, had a low voice, and loved to sing, so went along and loved it. Harmony Belles quickly evolved into a Sweet Adelines chapter and chartered as the Greater Auckland Chorus.

She joined up with Sue Roberts, tenor, Jan Smith, baritone, and Chris Reynolds, lead, to form a quartet called "A Taste of Honey" and they had many performances in Auckland, and even appeared on a TV talent quest.

NZ region grew really quickly and by 1990 we were big enough to hold our first contest. By then "Taste of Honey's" tenor was wanting a break so they asked me to fill in for the contest and, renamed Export Quality, we won the contest. Thus Barbara was a member of the first competing group from NZ to sing on the SAI International Stage, in Salt Lake City. Shirley Kout very kindly and generously took these absolute fledglings under her wing and worked with us for a week prior to contest. I still laugh when I think of the plane flight over and the joy that lit Barbara's face when she realized we

As We Remember Barbara Letcher

were sharing the economy coach with an Australian rugby team! And when I think about how we thought we were so cool when we bought matching black tee shirts that had "G'DAY!" written on them in floro colours, for the quartet walk through. We wore them with jeans and white Reeboks - little did we know that the "big girls" wore matching leather jackets, false eyelashes, and high heels!

I was revisiting in my mind the contest when Barbara became Master Director in 2002 and really, it was a huge deal at the time! I'd forgotten how exciting it really was. The chorus wasn't exactly a shoo-in to win the contest but we certainly hoped we'd do well. I can remember having Kim (then Hulbert) Vaughn, Lynne Smith, and Shirley Kout coach us, and feeling very well-rehearsed and so ready to leave it all on the stage. Naturally we did want to win the contest but there was also an unspoken hope that we would score over 600, that magical number that would make Barbara the second Master Director in Region 35. She had made the long, hard rehearsals fun and had worked overtime to make everyone feel included; even presenting every member of the chorus with a hand-written good luck card before going on stage.

It's funny how sometimes memories get a bit blurred in some areas but are crystal clear in others! I remember us singing, wearing lovely teal dusters, and feeling happy about our performance, and going back to our seats in the auditorium to await the results. When the placings started to be announced and our name didn't get called, it was obvious we'd won the contest so that set everyone on edge as we waited through that loooong speech about the winners

being invited to the International contest and just wanting to hear what our score was!

So when the judge said, "With a score, of six hundred and ___", I don't think anyone in the auditorium heard the actual final number over the shrieks of joy coming from the winning chorus. It was over 600 and we were so proud and thrilled for Barbara. I don't think it's too far fetched to say we felt like we'd given her a gift in return for her hard work and faith in the chorus. I do remember falling off my seat and scrambling up again to race up to the stage. A very special memory in a long Sweet Adelines career! I still smile when I think of her and the fun she added to my life!

GAYE SHADBOLT

Talk to anyone who had the opportunity to know Barb and you won't hear one unkind word. She was loved for her joy of life, her quick wit, her infectious laugh, her skills in coaching and her wonderful 'people skills'. She was a very busy lady in her home life with her partner Shirley, her family - her three daughters and son.

She was an English Master at Mt Roskill Grammar where she coached a chorus and also specialised in helping new immigrants.

She took part in all aspects of managing and coaching the chorus and the weekends found her at all points around NZ coaching other choruses, quartets and running retreat weekends. She even competed with Faultline Chorus on stage after being talked into it at a retreat. The memories of the end of a hard days coaching winding

up with Barb and her trusty guitar surrounded by friends singing along until late in the night was the norm. Away from chorus she loved fishing! I remember her turning up to go fishing with us the first time dressed in a pristine white shirt, white shorts and shoes and a box of muffins under her arm. She came home looking like she had been to war - covered with fish blood and bait etcetera as, after she caught her first fish, she was tucking them under her armpit to remove the hooks! She never came out again looking like that! Perhaps the greatest love she had away from chorus was gardening. She always had a magnificent garden.

Sometimes someone comes into your life and leaves a lasting memory. Judging from the emails and calls received Barb has done that for many people over the years.

Rest well dear friend - they say between the day you are born until the day you die there is a 'dash' and it's what you do with the dash that matters.

KATE VEEDER

She was so vibrant in the formative years of Sweet Adelines in New Zealand. She wrote the lyrics to 'New Zealand Hideaway.' So talented, so endearing, so generous with her time and talent, a beautiful soul lost to us all at the age of 66.

She was in the first Quartet that represented New Zealand on the International Stage and was known world-wide by Sweet Adelines, as a personality larger than life.

She directed Greater Auckland Chorus for several years. She took many YWIH Quartets/choruses and coached/directed them.

SHIRLEY KOUT

She represented New Zealand well in the formative years and was a guiding light to many. She was the life of the party, always a song, a joke, and many hours playing the guitar for sing alongs. RIP Barbara, I was fortunate to have you in my life for many years.



Living the

Sweet Life!

When a city unites to raise funds to restore and redevelop an historic memorial theatre, what better way to celebrate the theatre opening than with a gala concert?

And who better to perform at the gala evening than artists who began their performing careers in that city, and are now known on national and international stages?

So it happened that Sweet Life! quartet was flown to Gisborne to perform on Toni Griffin's home ground at the new Gisborne War Memorial Theatre's Grand Gala Evening in June.

It was an honour and a thrill to share the stage with a hand-picked cast of high achievers from the East Coast:

- a violinist who has earned fame in Shanghai
- a clarinetist who has performed to acclaim in the US, the UK, and Australia
- a dancer now performing in Sydney
- a classical singer and actor now based at Te Papa
- a country singer earning major awards in Australia

Singing to a full house of over 500 enthusiastic listeners was a delight. We like to think our performance promoted awareness and acceptance of women's barbershop singing, and it was wonderful to feel the love and respect our lead holds in her community.

The warm welcome we received from the Gisborne community made it a night to remember!



Viva Las Vegas!

Another Sweet Adelines International Convention comes to an end and it's time for members of the Greater Auckland Chorus to drift back to reality from the lights, glitz and glamour that is Las Vegas. There is no other place like it on earth and what a whirlwind trip it was as 49 women from Auckland, New Zealand, and their supporters, made the 14 hour trek across the world to touch down in Nevada. This included 15 fabulous "international first-timers", all of whom are hooked and busting to go again to another International.

What a sensory overload and culture shock that was. Where else in the world is it completely acceptable to wander down the main street sipping on a GIANT cocktail at 11am; it's a city where you have never seen so many digital advertising screens blinking at you – even the bathrooms have advertising screens playing next to the taps; and it's a place where you can gamble...anywhere – at the airport when you land, or even at the bar while you wait for your drink.

THE JOURNEY TO THE STAGE

The week began for us on Saturday 3 October as we gathered in our GAC "home" room for our first rehearsal on the ground. What a delight it was to see that before we arrived, pixies had visited the room to deck it out with familiar Kiwi colours and messages of support to make us feel at home.

Navigating the way to the rehearsal room, through the village that is the MGM Grand Hotel and Casino, was the chorus's first test, which 90% passed with flying colours! The 10-15 minute walk from the hotel rooms, through the casino, past the food court, past the shops, past the arena, down the escalators, past the pool and finally into the conference centre area became VERY familiar by the end of the convention as we made the trek daily for rehearsals, that was all the while trying not to get run over by hoons on hired mobility scooters! We figure most of us would have done a minimum of 50 minutes walking every day. And we also figure

we were the only chorus without mobility scooters!

By Monday, other Sweet Adelines from around the world had started to arrive, and yes the number of mobility scooters increased. We were lucky enough to have a few old friends and coaches drop by with good wishes and last minute tips. It was good to see familiar faces such as Doug Harrington, Jim Arns, Renee Porzel, as well as other Sweet Adelines from New Zealand, and we even sang our upbeat version of 'Happy Birthday' to Bev Miller, Director of Capital City Chorus in Indianapolis.

Two of our front row glamour girls, Fiona and Angela, donned their Vegas Showgirl glamour outfits and beautifully represented GAC in the Vegas Birthday themed Parade of Flags on Thursday night and convention was officially opened.

For the first time ever we had our own GAC quartet representing Region 35 at the same event, so we were thrilled to be able to support MOLTO!



Fiona and Angela representing GAC in the parade of flags



on stage!



GAC International First Timers



Row by Row Makeup checks

in the quartet contest. We made sure the New Zealand flags were waving and that they could hear the 'Kiwi' chant as they waited backstage. For their international debut they did Greater Auckland Chorus and all of Region 35 very proud and can proudly claim the title of 'highest score ever by a first timer Region 35 quartet!'

Thursday was the big day of the semis and we all met together for a nutritious, catered breakfast to start the day at 7am before jumping into some energetic physical warm ups to get the blood pumping, vocal warm-ups to get the vocal apparatus moving, before some final runs of our songs.

Then it was back to our rooms to get those pesky eyelashes on, glam hair dos done and stage makeup on before the trek back again to our GAC rehearsal room for last minute checks by our costume, hair and makeup gurus. Row by row we were all given the once-over – was our hair high enough? - was our foundation

radiant enough? - was our blusher on to meet that fine line between high fashion stage makeup and clown? After a few more run-throughs, it was time to go!

“It was time to channel into any one of those famous singers and become a star”

Because the entire convention was held in the one venue, there were no buses to catch so we made our way in a walking convoy of very glamorous women through the MGM Grand to the Arena to the start of the traffic pattern.

A feeling of excitement buzzed throughout the convoy as we went through the traffic pattern. The final walk to the stage was down a long corridor lined with concert posters from star performers who had sung on that very stage – Barbra Streisand, Tina Turner, Mariah Carey, Beyonce, J-Lo, Andrea Bocelli, Elton John, Billy Joel, Cher, Diana Ross and the Bee

Gees - it was time to channel into any one of those famous singers and become a star, as we turned the corner and mounted the floor lit ramp before embracing the bright stage lights and the arena in front of us. For such a big venue with multi-tiered arena seating, the view from the stage felt almost intimate.

Six minutes on stage goes by like a flash and we all came off stage buzzing at the experience and at the achievement, with that semi-dazed thought, “Did that really just happen?”

FAMILY TIES

But what a wonderful hobby we have in Sweet Adelines where mothers, daughters, sisters, cousins and more can share the joy of singing together. For the Greater Auckland Chorus, it was quite a family affair in Las Vegas with three mother/daughter combos as well as a set of sisters on stage. It all starts at the top with our mother/daughter Co-Directors – Melody Lowe and Jocosa Bruce.

GAC breakfast fun



Some of the decorations in the GAC 'home' room



Members of GAC celebrating 70 years of Sweet Adelines



Mother daughter Duo - Mehernaz and Persis Darukhanawalla

Another GAC mother/daughter duo are Mehernaz and Persis Darukhanawalla. Mehernaz is one of our Bass section leaders while at 20 years of age, (yes legal in NZ but not in Las Vegas) Persis (who also sings bass) was our youngest member on stage. Persis is a YWIH alumni and was formerly introduced to barbershop at high school where she competed with the Macleans College chorus – Macapella. As well as this, she was a part of Dolce, winning the New Zealand Young Women in Harmony quartet competition in 2012. Persis says, “Singing together in a chorus on the international stage had been a dream that mum and I had always looked forward to accomplishing together.

“Having the opportunity to share our passion for barbershop is truly an incredible experience.”

Music has brought us closer together in so many ways and has helped us make some incredible life-long friends. It’s definitely much more than a hobby, it

has become a lifestyle. One that is truly exciting in every way.”

Our third mother/daughter combo is that of Sheerie and Philippa Rogers and continuing the family theme, we have our two “Music Team” sisters, Kristina Roper and Stephanie Panzic.

HARD WORK OVER, IT’S TIME TO ENJOY AND PARTY VEGAS STYLE!

With our performance over, we could sit back and enjoy everything else International Convention and Las Vegas has to offer. The finals of both the quartet and chorus competitions are always a treat to watch and we were in awe of everyone who crossed the stage on those days. The quartet competition was a particularly close call with fine performances by Speed of Sound, Frenzy and Windsor to name a few. Some diligent GAC members had their “race books” at the ready jotting down notes and attempting to make their final picks. It was a delight to see the lovely ladies of Speed of Sound crowned Queens of Harmony. And it was a most deserving win to Scottsdale Chorus who took out the chorus competition

the following day with a consistently full-on performance from the get-go.

2015 is the celebration of 70 years of Sweet Adelines and GAC joined in with choruses from around the world at the Sweet Adelines Birthday Bash at the MGM Grand. Glammed up Vegas style, the girls of GAC danced the night away before joining in the tag party.

There are so many things to see and do in Vegas, and many of us did manage to take in some phenomenal shows. From Celine Deon to the Frank Sinatra impersonator, to innumerable Cirque du Soleil shows, even to just watching the duelling pianos in the MGM bar, as well as enjoying fine dining and Grand Canyon tours, outlet shopping and more. We managed to see it all. So if you are heading to a Vegas International in the coming years and are looking for some insider tips or reviews, be sure to come and have a chat with us at Regionals next year! There is truly something for everyone!

**PHILIPPA ROGERS
GAC MARKETING AND PROMOTIONS**



MOLTO! moments in Las Vegas

As you may know, the 2015 Sweet Adelines International Convention was the first time that MOLTO! quartet had earned the right to compete on the international stage. We thought we would share with you some of the magical moments from our experience.

Firstly, having our fellow Greater Auckland Chorus members accompany us on our journey was a highlight for us. They were a great support in the build up to the contest. On contest day morning they presented us with bubbles and cards with very heartfelt wishes, then beautiful roses when we came off stage.

Not only GAC but the entire Region 35 contingent showed their support with also a lovely gift each from the Region (matching tote bags and scarf).

One of the privileges of being a competing quartet is attending the Coronet Club reception. This was an opportunity to mingle with Queens and to hear the reigning champions, Bling, perform. One of the best moments was being introduced to the great Nancy Bergman, a Queen herself - we were very honoured to meet the name behind most of our arrangements and what a gift she is for Sweet Adelines all around the world!

Having not had much time together as a full quartet with Kristina being away (and still away) we looked to getting some tweaks to our performance with some last minute coaching sessions with Renée Porzel, Jim Arns and Carole Persinger. Although all parties had very

busy schedules, just a half hour slot with each was a great pick-me-up and we grabbed on to any little 'extras' we could to enhance our performance. What a thrill!

For each regional competition we have always had our hair done professionally and this contest was not going to be any different. In fact we upped the ante by treating ourselves to having our hair done at the very glamorous Christophe Salon in the MGM, made all the more special with a mimosa in hand. We felt very pampered and relaxed in this second step of preparing for our time to shine...first step was a very extensive buffet breakfast experience!

Being in the walk through pattern was a blast! Firstly with the pre-performance photos and some silly poses - this certainly helped calm the nerves! Then walking the corridors lined with photos of star performers - Elton John, Celine Dion, Beyonce, Madonna and many more. It was very humbling, but also inspiring, knowing that these stars had also performed in the same arena and under the exact bright lights we were heading for. We quietly wondered to ourselves, would MOLTO! one day join the hall of fame? Something to work on! It was truly magical, waiting to go on stage and hearing the crowd calling for us, 'MOLTO!!, MOLTO!!' and it made us feel very proud to represent our Region.

The performance itself was a very special experience, and was one

goal we had that turned quickly in to a reality as we broke through those white drapes and on to the International stage. What a sense of achievement! The excitement continued as we made our way back into the arena to cheers from the crowd and our gorgeous GAC riser mates - whoop whoop! We waited patiently for our turn on the webcast, as we knew we had many online supporters to thank. It was great that we were able to give our thanks and shout outs. And how cool that we had a kiwi flag proudly flown behind us during the interview, even if this was being paraded by German and Japanese representatives from our chorus!

We had many magical MOLTO! moments and enjoyed the entire experience so much that we are very keen to do it all over again! If you missed our performance and would like to view it, you can find it on our facebook page at facebook.com/moltoquartet

We look forward to seeing you all at the 2016 regional contest! We've only been back a couple of weeks but are already making plans for rehearsals, coaching, performing and fundraising. We've purchased a nail gun so that when our Tenor, Kristina, eventually lands in Auckland in December for good, we can fully pin her down!

So a big thank you again to all those who have supported us in so many ways, both within the region and outside. MOLTO! grazi.

PHILIPPA ROGERS



A CHORUS AND QUARTET FROM WELLINGTON CITY

How did they put together such

WELLINGTON CITY CHORUS:

The year after returning from International contest is one for refreshing the chorus and getting away from the 2-song contest routine. For Wellington City Chorus, the new Open Division looked like a golden opportunity to do this with a set at Regionals. The chorus became only the second chorus (after Region 4's Capital City in April) to enter Open Division straight after competing at International.

Putting the set together was highly collaborative, with skills and ideas coming from all over the chorus.

One idea from a brainstorming session specially caught the fancy of the directors – the Cell Block

Tango from “Chicago”. How about a prison set? Despite a flood of song suggestions the ten minute time limit allowed only the top three on our wish list: Cell Block Tango, a suitable contest ballad, and an upbeat number that would showcase Henri’s phenomenal beat-boxing talent.

Crying Myself To Sleep fitted the brief beautifully – a contest ballad we’d started twice (1999, 2013) but never sung in public. Michael Jackson’s Smooth Criminal, as sung by University of Michigan’s men’s a cappella group, gave us our beat-box finale. There were a few arranging tasks to complete the package. We cut the Tango from a carefully crafted ten minutes down to the four we had available, wrote the linking words and music between songs, and adapted one very rangy men’s arrangement of Smooth Criminal for female voices.

We wanted the set to flow as if it came from a music theatre show. In Cell Block Tango several murderers explain that they committed “a murder but not a crime”. For flow, we linked the rest of the package to the Tango. The other songs told the story of another murderess “Annie” through the lead-up to the crime (Crying Myself to Sleep) and the event (Smooth Criminal), and the linking material between songs was based on themes from the Tango.

“after I murder my husband I just feel like crying myself to sleep”... that was so bad it would have been funny!”



CHAPTER WON AUDIENCE CHOICE AWARDS

entertaining Open Division sets?

We avoided the ‘corny’ dialogue after hearing it in so many packages at international. Our coach Lea Beverley gave a sample of dialogue she was glad we’d avoided – “after I murder my husband I just feel like crying myself to sleep”... that was so bad it would have been funny!

The chorus brought in a choreographer, Esther Lau from Wellington’s internationally successful Pump Dance Company who introduced the visual plan at our retreat in February. She’s a stunning teacher. Esther has no barbershop experience but a very strong understanding of how moves affect the singing voice and ability to re-design choreography on her feet.

Auditions for speaking parts unearthed some great talent and a search for prison bar props unearthed a set that had been beautifully made

by a chorus member’s husband for a show three years ago.

This was the antithesis of many Sweet Adelines sets. The fourth wall up the whole way, as we walked on and off as staunch prisoners, not the slightest bit engaged with the audience. The only shiny things were the handcuffs carried by “warden” David. To help our characterisation we borrowed an idea from Metro Nashville.

“Every singer went on as an individual character with a history, and we had a lot of fun sharing the back story of each prisoner.”

The greatest challenge came when Lynne Smith urged us to keep that

staunch look through the ballad, to not let it become “now we’re back in Sweet Adelines contest land!” To keep face down while the inside smile is up takes practice.

As we went through rehearsals we got more and more excited about our set. No need to talk about attendance as the risers were full each night. We had the most relaxing of conventions. The pressure of contest off, no early rehearsals, not much time required for hair and makeup, we got to wear tattoos, mohawks cornrows and there was not a high heel or sequin in sight!

This is a set we were so looking forward to present. We had a ball, and loved the audience response!

HENRIETTA HUNKIN
CO-DIRECTOR
WELLINGTON CITY CHORUS

Health and Safety in our Choruses...



Our New Zealand Government has done a major review of the Health and Safety Reform Bill and this will come into play April 4 2016.

Whilst most of the choruses in New Zealand are voluntary organisations and the essence of this bill will not directly affect us, choruses cannot ignore that we must take all practicable care for health and safety with everyone who is involved with our choruses.

Does your chorus have a health and safety plan that covers these key points:

- Safe care on and off risers?
- Movement of portable risers in a safe way?
- Who is allowed to move the risers and have they been trained properly?
- Routine checks on your risers for maintenance?
- First aid kits available for the chorus members?
- Fire and earthquake safety plans?
- Has your chorus done a safety drill for fire and earthquakes?
- Security of your chorus members when involved with chorus activities?

Discussion with Worksafe NZ done by Waikato Rivertones members said that whilst we may be a voluntary association it would not be exempt from having a plan in place to ensure all practicable care was taken. Each

chorus has unique circumstances to consider. The Waikato Rivertones members have written a plan which they are prepared to share with others.

Please contact Moira Haddrell at moira@haddrells.co.nz to discuss this plan.

Consider this information below;

Is your organisation a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking?

Under the Bill, a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking (PCBU) has the primary duty to ensure the health and safety of its workers and others, so far as is reasonably practicable.

A purely volunteer organisation where volunteers work together for community purposes and which does not have any employees is known as a volunteer association under the Bill.

A volunteer association is not a PCBU so the Bill will not apply to it.

A volunteer organisation which has one or more employees is a PCBU and will have the same duties as a PCBU to ensure, so far as reasonably practicable, the health and safety of its workers and others.

If your organisation is a PCBU, does it have casual volunteers or volunteer workers?

“Select Committee change: Where volunteers carry out work for a PCBU, the Bill distinguishes between casual volunteers and volunteer workers. Volunteer workers are people who regularly work for a PCBU with its knowledge and consent on an ongoing basis and are integral to the PCBU’s operations. This distinction is based on the existing Health and Safety in Employment Act 1992.”

PCBUs owe a duty to ensure, so far as is reasonably practicable, the health and safety of volunteer workers as if they were any other worker. This ensures that these volunteers are afforded the protection of having the appropriate training, instruction or supervision need to undertake their work safely – just like any other worker.

Excerpt in italics Taken from Worksafe New Zealand website <http://www.business.govt.nz/worksafe/about/reform/reform-bill-key-changes>

**MOIRA HADDRELL,
RMT - MARKETING COORDINATOR**





Written by Carly Thomas - Reporter - Manawatu Standard

Members of the Manawatu Overtones rehearse. From left, Chris Thompson, Faye Roberts, Sylvia Fountain, Jenni Masters, Liz Watts

It's all about the voice

The love for what they do is clear to see when the Manawatu Overtones sing.

The Palmerston North group of 30 female barbershop singers have created a combined concert which has them sharing the stage with all-female groups, the Wellington City Chorus, He Tangata-New Zealand Show Chorus and Revelry.

Overtones member Jenni Masters said it is a fantastic celebration of barbershop singing.

"It's the wonderful feeling that you get when you're singing in four-part harmonies. It's like surround sound."

Founding member Sylvia Fountain, who was part of the original seven

women who started the group 11 years ago, agreed.

"It's the buzz that comes from not having an instrument to lean on and it's all about the voice."

"It's the wonderful feeling that you get when you're singing in four-part harmonies. It's like surround sound."

"We started off just meeting in one of our member's houses and as we grew we eventually started to rehearse at the Milson Church Hall."

The barbershop group is affiliated with the Sweet Adelines, a worldwide organisation of female singers committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performance.

The whole organisation is really education based, Fountain said. "When people join they can't expect to remain the same singer that they did when they first met us. There's a lot of technique and we are always learning."

"One of the great things about the group is that we all come from all different walks of life but it is the camaraderie that we have when we meet together. It's a great group."



Below are the as yet unaudited “numbers” from 1 May to 30 September 2015 as well as the Jim Arns and Renée Porzel visit to NZ earlier this year. Our accounting software is now Xero. It was agreed at the last RMT meeting to change the financial year for reporting to NZ members. The current financial year will end on 31 December and going forward will be from 1 January to 31 December. This has been approved by the Charities Commission. This will make it much easier and clearer to budget and report on future conventions. Previously it has spanned two financial years. We still have to report to SAI May to April but that is achievable with Xero. Costs are increasing rapidly for conventions and we are working to secure grants to assist. - Stella Nicholson, Finance Coordinator.

NEW ZEALAND SWEET ADELINES INTERNATIONAL REGION 35 INC

Profit & Loss

1 May 2015 to 30 September 2016

Income	
A Cappella Arcade - Sale of Merchandise	\$1,886.53
Administration Income	\$31,283.57
Convention Income	\$88,251.94
Education Income	\$56,431.60
He Tangata Chorus Income	\$3,192.31
Total Income	\$181,045.95
Gross Profit	\$181,045.95
Less Operating Expenses	
Administration Expense	\$12,930.72
Convention Expense	\$56,450.99
Education Expense	\$44,146.86
He Tangata Expense	\$1,579.57
Regional Assistance to Internationally Competing Choruses and Quartets	\$6,521.74
Total Operating Expenses	\$121,629.88
Net Profit	\$59,416.07

Profit & Loss

Art and Craft of Barbershop

Income	
ED WORKSHOP REGISTRATIONS	\$32,962.61
Total Income	\$32,962.61
Gross Profit	\$32,962.61
Less Operating Expenses	
ED ACCOMMODATION AND MEALS	\$22,956.97
ED COACHING FEES	\$3,996.78
ED GENERAL EXPENSES	\$543.88
ED MUSIC RESOURCES	\$1,083.95
ED PER DIEM	\$200.00
ED PHOTOCOPYING	\$260.87
ED PRINTING AND STATIONERY	\$153.92
ED TRAVELLING EXPENSES	\$2,645.07
Total Operating Expenses	\$31,841.44
Net Profit	\$1,121.17

Balance Sheet

As at 30 September 2015

Assets	
Bank	
SAI NZ He Tangata	\$9,359.91
Sweet Adelines International	\$37,817.19
Total Bank	\$47,177.10
Current Assets	
Accounts Receivable	\$2,585.00
ADM CASH ON HAND	-\$11.00
ADM STOCK ON HAND	\$7,341.85
Total Current Assets	\$9,915.85
Fixed Assets	
ADM FIXED ASSETS	\$1,800.00
ADM PROVISION FOR DEPRECIATION	-\$1,410.80
Total Fixed Assets	\$389.20
Total Assets	\$57,482.15
Liabilities	
Current Liabilities	
GST CONTROL	-\$5,351.36
GST8	\$1,292.23
Rounding	-\$0.07
Sundry Payables	-\$6,975.25
Total Current Liabilities	-\$11,034.45
Total Liabilities	-\$11,034.45
Net Assets	\$68,516.60
Equity	
ADM RESERVES CONVENTION	-\$22,839.00
ADM RESERVES HE TANGATA CHORUS	\$6,047.00
ADM RESERVES REGIONAL ASSISTANCE	-\$4,759.00
ADM RETAINED EARNINGS GENERAL	\$31,521.10
Current Year Earnings	\$59,416.07
Retained Earnings	-\$869.57
Total Equity	\$68,516.60



NZ CHAPTER CONTACTS

BELLA A CAPPELLA CHORUS

TC: Helen Guthrie
helenguthrie@ihug.co.nz
Meets: Thursdays 6.30pm
The Pavilion, Cobham Road Domain,
Kerikeri. Ph 09 405 9927
www.bellaacappellanz.com

CAPITAL HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Christine Binns
cdb@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 7.30pm
Churton Park School Hall, Wellington
Ph 04 478 8159
www.capitalharmony.org.nz

CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS

TC: Miriam Spragg
miriam.spragg@gmail.com
Meets: Wednesdays 7.30pm
Cashmere High School
Performing Arts Centre, Barrington St
Ph 03 323 9181
www.ccchorus.co.nz

DUNEDIN HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Sandi Adams
sandi.adams@y7mail.com
Meets: Tuesdays 7.30pm
Andersons Bay Bowling Club
Bayfield Road, Dunedin
Ph 03 552 0982
www.dunedinharmony.webs.com

FAULTLINE CHORUS

TC: Liz Ross
liz.dion@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Wednesdays 7.30pm
Salvation Army Crossroads
Cnr High/Cuba Sts, Petone
Wellington
Ph 04 562 0110
www.faultline.org.nz

FOVEAUX HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Ann-marie Francis
fhcmanage2012@gmail.com
Meets: Thursdays 7.00pm
U.F.S Hall 76 Tay St, Invercargill
Ph 03 213 0529
www.foveauxharmony.co.nz

GREATER AUCKLAND CHORUS

TC: Danielle Wallace
daniellewallace@clear.net.nz
Meets: Tuesdays 7.15pm
Balmoral Bowling Club
Mont Le Grand Ave, Mt Eden, Auckland
Ph: 09 425 0092
www.greateraucklandchorus.com

MANAWATU OVERTONES CHORUS

TC: Andrea Tamatea
atamatea@gmail.com
Meets: Tuesdays 7pm
Milson Combined Church
Cnr Milson Line/Purdie St
Palmerston North
Ph 06 354 5573
www.facebook.com/ManawatuOvertones

NELSON BAYS HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Jenny Edwards
nbhctenor@gmail.com
Meets: Thursdays 7pm
Club Waimea, Lower Queen St
Richmond. Ph 03 547 4354
www.nelsonharmony.org.nz

SOUNDS OF HAWKES BAY CHORUS

TC: Katie Williams
kateskids@clear.net.nz
Meets: Mondays 7.15pm
Clive School, 57 School Road, Clive
Ph 06 876 5665
www.soundsofhawkesbaychorus.co.nz

SOUTHCITY SOUNDZ CHORUS

TC: Cheryl Weijermars
a.c.ymars@icloud.com
Meets: Mondays 7.15pm
St John the Evangelist School
Otara Rd, Otara
Ph 09 2672 277 / 021 243 2624
www.facebook.com/SouthCity-Soundz

TARANAKI HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Fy Tait
fydunford@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Wednesdays 7pm
St Andrews Church
Liardet Street, New Plymouth
Ph 06 752 7921
www.taranakiharmony.co.nz

WAIKATO RIVERTONES CHORUS

TC: Cherie Brazendale
j.cbrazendale@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 7pm
Marian School Hall
Clyde Street, Hamilton
Ph 027 291 3103
www.waikatorivertones.com

WELLINGTON CITY CHORUS

TC: Elizabeth Moncrieff
elizabeth@moncrieff.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 7pm
Wellington Bridge Club
17 Tinakori Road,
Wellington. Ph 021 541 150
www.wellingtoncitychorus.org

WHANGAREI HARMONY CHORUS

TC: Sheryl Cumming
smcnallyw@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 7.15pm
Ph 09 435 3780
www.whangareiharmony.org.nz

REGION 35 SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND

is part of Sweet Adelines International which is a highly respected world-wide organisation of women singers, committed to advancing the musical art form of four part a cappella, barbershop harmony through education and performance. This educational organisation is one of the largest singing organisations for women.

Hundreds of women of all ages are having the time of their lives. Our choruses and quartets give women a voice - singing, learning, fun, fitness, socialising and growth in confidence.

www.sweetadelines.co.nz
www.facebook.com/SweetAdelinesNZ
www.sweetadelineintl.org

WE'D LOVE TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Share your story about your show, fundraiser, exceptional chorus member, your celebrations!

Send your submission of about 400 words with photos separate to Addaline editor Sandy Gunn: gunnfam@xtra.co.nz

Editorial responsibility for this publication is maintained by Region 35 RMT. Decisions relating to inclusion of content will be made where necessary.

*We are very proud of MOLTO! and Greater Auckland Chorus
who represented NZ in Las Vegas!*

*Now the excitement continues in NZ for 2016 as we build up
to our regional competition in Wellington in May, followed by
AHA and Rising Star in Auckland in July!*

*Best wishes to all competing choruses and quartets!
It's going to be an awesome year!*



REAL WOMEN - REAL HARMONY - REAL FUN