

sweet
adelines
new zealand

the
addaline

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Congratulations
to Christchurch
City Chorus
& Unlimited



A cappella with attitude!

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Founded in 1945, in Tulsa, Oklahoma, Sweet Adelines started as a small group of women who loved to sing. Since then, it has evolved into an organization that spans the globe, connecting nearly 21,000 singers around the world in song. Sweet Adelines is committed to advancing the musical art form of barbershop harmony through education and performances.

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A message from Leigh: It's all About the Connections!



I spent much of my time at Voices at Victory catching up with people from around the country. It was marvellous!

Having been a Sweet Adeline for 28 years I may have an advantage over those who have not held membership for so many years, but it truly doesn't take long to create those connections in this world of singing in which we exist.

From the Thursday when we were setting up the venue ahead of the sound check, I was reconnecting with members of the Regional Management Team who were assisting, I was reconnecting with Sharon Connor (Page, website administrator and audio/visual assistant) who is now based in Dunedin and Cindy Naresh (Panel Secretary) who no longer sings with Faultline but remains a Member at Large. The set up was a little challenging at times and my experience of serving as Stage Manager at many a school production came in handy with the ever-handly gaffer tape being utilised for several purposes.

As others arrived to take part in the sound check there were many 'hi, hellos' and hugs as faces and names were recognised. You just can't help but smile when you see the faces of singers from other areas of the country who have come to join in the same event and their sense of anticipation of the fun ahead is as high as your own.

Saying hello to the Official Panel, three of whom I have met before was also another connection that just felt right

– this panel are there for a reason, the business of contest, a Sweet Adelines contest that we haven't held in New Zealand since 2019.

Thursday evening the Regional Annual Members' Meeting was held and again many connections were made as we introduced the Regional Management Team to those in attendance.

being part of the rmt gives a different sense of connection with the region as you feel a sense of responsibility and a desire to do right by everyone.

The reports from all the Coordinators were made available on the national website in April under RMT Information and Vacancies/ RAMM/2023. You can now find my report and the Minutes from the meeting loaded on the same page. My report gives the overview of the past 12 months and you would be surprised to read all that we have been up to in that time.

Following the Meeting, dinner would have been the next call of the day for most followed by rehearsals at the Victory Centre, including a rehearsal for the STAR (Singing Together At Regional) Chorus. The STAR Chorus is a fantastic opportunity for singers who are not competing but who still value a chance to perform. A perfect

way to connect with members from around the Region!

Friday we began the day with Music in the Morning, and watching from the side-lines it was heart-warming to observe the audience connect with Carolyn, Shelley and TeeJay as they took the participants through the vocal and physical warm-ups of the day. Sarah Rae was scheduled to be presenting at this class but was not able to attend; we missed you on the stage, Sarah, but look forward to you joining us in Dunedin next year.

The afternoon rolled in, and we were entertained by the quartet contest. I had the pleasure of working the traffic pattern for this contest so missed the performances, but I am assured by both audience feedback, and the contestants scores, that it was an impressive contest. The loud audience support of the quartets was audible when the doors opened to the auditorium, demonstrating to me in the foyer the connection these groups were making with their peers, family and friends in that audience.

As I juggled the quartets arriving into the traffic pattern from one room to another I re-connected with many singers I haven't seen for some time. It's like greeting family members you only see at reunions or weddings. But no time for chit chat these singers were there for a purpose. Presenting quartet awards at the end of the session along with the Membership Awards was an absolute bonus! We had so

(CONTINUED OVER PAGE)

many fabulous members to celebrate, from longevity awards to those who medal at that most admirable of achievements, quartet singing.

The Spirit Award is a very highly anticipated award and this year's most deserving winner is Mary Ann Zorovic. Unfortunately, Mary Ann was unable to be at convention to accept her award but I know Greater Auckland Chorus will celebrate this outstanding recognition with Mary Ann.

This year we introduced 2 further membership awards and these along with our longevity, merit and other awards were presented at the conclusion of the quartet session – In this edition you will find articles on these awards. For the full list of those who were acknowledged at convention please check out the Awards Recipients page on the national website or look on the Sweet Adelines New Zealand Facebook page. It's always so heartening to see our members recognised for their time and efforts within our organisation.

Friday evening saw further rehearsals being held and music ringing out as you walked around the venue. Saturday the venue was truly humming with sound, the sound of 200 members of the public arriving to support a chorus, the sound of people connecting as they caught sight of someone they knew heading into the traffic pattern. The sound of conversations between singers as to who had the extra lipstick or who had the extra bronzer and other very important details! Then the chorus contest was underway and that full, beautiful sound of four-part harmony as sung by choruses both large and small, took flight. Fantastic. As more of our 388 registrants began to fill the auditorium having had their moment on the stage the excitement and camaraderie in the room was a delight to behold. Connections were made as those seated congratulated those who entered having just sung. Much appreciation for each performance was shared, hearty congratulations given to many, comments made on ballads that moved the listener or uptunes that had the listener toe tapping all the way, and so on it went.



The awards session for choruses was a very interesting time backstage. The acoustics were such that we in the wings could not understand a word that was being said on stage so as our Panel Chair, Vickie Maybury, made her announcements we were relying on a basis of charades from those with an ear pressed to the curtain to convey which award was needed! We got there in the end with much laughter and not a little frustration at that situation. The winners were duly acknowledged with medals, trophies, certificates and more. But the day as we know is about so much more than the awards –

it was the fun, the singing, the support shown for one another and for those who took the stage, knowing that you achieved so much by being on that stage.

We Sweet Adelines know what it takes to have those few precious moments on the competition stage.

After all the fun of the day the crowd duly left and attended parties or dinners or both. I understand that the singing carried on for many hours at the party hosted by Christchurch City Chorus, which included the reconnecting of the quartet Perfect Timing to entertain the diners.

Sunday, our last day of being together as a Region began with a breakfast that the RMT hosted for Team Coordinators and Directors. This was an event that was held for many years some time ago in our Region and

this year seemed most appropriate to hold this breakfast once again to congratulate these leaders on all they have done to keep this Region active over the past few extraordinary years. I trust there were people other than me, who connected across the breakfast tables and swapped stories and anecdotes or wishes for contests of the future.

Onwards to the Education Classes – we are very lucky in our Region that the Official Panel are usually available the day after contest and willing to take classes for the membership. This year all four judges took two classes each and from the level of conversation during the class changeover I am sure there are now many members who have a new level of knowledge in several areas of our art form.

It was sad to say goodbye at the close of classes. We had formed such a bond with fellow singers over the 3 short days we'd been together. We had exchanged numbers or social media connections with new friends, we had shared stage experiences and dinner and party escapades with old and new acquaintances. And then it was over.

Thank you to everyone involved in putting together Voices at Victory! We had volunteers from across the country involved in this convention and we are very grateful for all you did to enable us to reconnect after three years of no contest.

We hold tight to the knowledge that next year we will connect again as we now begin to rehearse for those few short minutes on stage! Roll on Dunedin 2024.

LEIGH WHITELAW
TEAM COORDINATOR

Welcome Jacqui



Welcome to Jacqui Binnie in the role of Communications Coordinator to the Regional Management Team.

The RMT is very happy to announce the appointment of Jacqui to the Team. Jacqui has been a Sweet Adeline for 10 years and has a wealth of experience at chorus management level and organising conventions. We will have Jacqui put a short bio in the next edition.

An Opportunity to Serve AKA A Plea for Help

We are still seeking someone to fill the role of Marketing Coordinator – all those social media posts, the Team Talk publication, and other marketing initiatives need someone to make them happen. It could be you! Please consider taking this position on the Regional Management Team. We need a team of 8 to make it all happen for the Region.

Your RMT also needs assistance in Resource roles:

- Xero Assistant to help our Finance Coordinator by taking some of the day-to-day transactions off her shoulders.
- Administrator of our Teamwork event software programme – oversee the functionality of the programme and train new users etc
- Chapter at Large Coordinator – someone to be the point of contact for CAL members, to keep them up to date with happenings and generally be of assistance

All of the above roles are very important for the smooth running of our Region. Our RMT members need support. Please get in touch with any queries, or to apply, by emailing sweetadsnz@gmail.com

We thank you in anticipation of your offer to serve!

RMT Farewells

This year the RMT has farewelled Annmarie Francis and Jen Meadows from the roles of Events and Communications Coordinators respectively. We thank Annmarie for her time spent booking event locations and coordinating workshops and Jen for her assistance in keeping the members informed with many communications and ensuring International personnel were also kept in the loop. Your service over the past 12 months to the Region is much appreciated.

We have also had to say cheerio to Jo Maxwell, who has served 6 years on the RMT and has done amazing work in the Marketing role. Along with the many tasks of the role, Jo's work on creating our current branding, writing and directing a virtual convention presentation, writing and producing the Travel in Tune promotion video, as well as designing many convention logos has kept Sweet Adelines New Zealand looking good in all media. Jo, we thank you for your service and know you'll miss the RMT as much as we will miss you!

Katrina Te Punga who when completed her term as Communications Coordinator on the RMT, continued to administrate our event software programme and assist in other IT areas. Katrina is sadly leaving Sweet Adelines and we take this opportunity to thank her so much for her years of service to the Region.

Mark Your Calendars!

July 2023

DIAMOND DIVISION
QUARTET CONTEST

13 July 2023
Texas, USA

July 2023

RISING STAR
QUARTET CONTEST

14 July 2023
Texas, USA

Nov 2023

SAI INTERNATIONAL
CONVENTION

30 Oct - 4 Nov, 2023
Louisville, Kentucky, USA

May 2024

REGION 35
CONVENTION

23 - 25 May 2024
Dunedin

A Busy Year Planned



Christchurch City Chorus is getting back into the groove! The last time we competed at a Regional level was way back in 2018 - a lifetime ago!!

We started 2023 with our regular Kick-Start weekend, our initial preparation for the year ahead.

As well as the Region 35 Convention in May, some of our members headed to Arrowtown, Central Otago, to sing at the Arrowtown Autumn Festival during the last weekend in April.

We decided on a one show only - due to the King's Coronation. We sang "God Save the King" as well as our competition package and a few other favourites.



We have another group of people going to Rarotonga at the end of July for the Te Maeva Nui Festival. What a treat to be able to spend time swimming, snorkelling AND singing with friends in warmer climates.

In September, many of us are heading back to Auckland for the 2023 Pan Pacific Barbershop Convention. So we have a busy year planned.

We recently had our annual retreat at Living Springs, in Christchurch's Banks Peninsula. It was great to spend the weekend together singing. Here we are (main photo above) rejoicing about our new riser placements!! We loved seeing everyone in Auckland and rejoiced in all our fellow competitors being back on stage ringing those harmonies!

We had a wonderful Family & Friends Show "A Cappella ConnectionZ" on Saturday 6th May.

ANDREA WARD
TEAM COORDINATOR
CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS



Simply Magical Madrigals

Friends & Family Afternoon Concert. Held in Hamilton's Sacred Heart Girls College Hall, Saturday, 15 April.

The angelic strains of Ave Maria encircled the room as members of the Mountain View Madrigal choir stood surrounding the captivated audience. It was simply magical.

The energetic group of 42 high-schoolers from Silicon Valley, California, spent just eight days in New Zealand in their Spring Break, making stops in Paihia, Waitangi, Kaitia, Auckland, Matamata, Hamilton, Rotorua and Waitomo.

Every year, the Madrigals travel internationally to participate in a performance tour, meeting people and experiencing the rich and diverse culture of another country. Previous

travels include visits to England, Scotland, Wales, Ireland, Austria, Germany, France, Italy, Croatia, South Africa, St. Lucia, Brazil, Costa Rica, Vietnam, Cambodia and Switzerland. This year they were excited to travel to Fiji and New Zealand.

Director and music teacher, Jill Denny says each of the auditioned students are encouraged to take ownership in the pursuit of musical excellence and to model leadership practices that inspire the vision, encourage the heart and enable others to achieve group success.

their motto is 'every voice counts' and you get the feeling this extends way beyond the singing.

The Madrigals performed a variety of songs which delighted the Hamilton crowd including a stunning rendition of the song Wairua in flawless te reo. More importantly, managing to convey the spirit of the song, touching the heart of every audience member.

Members of the Waikato Rivertones Chorus and Mighty River Harmony (our brothers in harmony) as well as quartets, Unlimited and The Usual Suspects (BHNZ) also entertained the crowd of friends and family.

Many new connections were made over afternoon tea and there was a happy buzz as 'young and old' shared their love of music and performing together.

**ADRIENNE WINDSOR
WAIKATO RIVERTONES CHORUS**



Musical Director Wanted

Sounds of Hawke's Bay Chorus is a small Sweet Adelines' chorus. Our enthusiastic group of dedicated women rehearse our unaccompanied, four part harmony style of singing weekly on Thursday evenings.

We are seeking a musical leader who has a solid musical background, preferably in "a cappella" music, but we are open to any musical leader taking this opportunity to expand their skills and develop a new passion. We would love someone who is creative, inspirational and dynamic to join our supportive team. Regular barbershop coaching and education is provided, supported by a New Zealand wide and international network of Sweet Adeline coaches and experts.

Please contact - Lesley Standing, Acting Director, lesleys@xtra.co.nz



Dunedin Singers Create Mouth-watering Memories

They're famous for making winter cheese rolls, but this year Dunedin Harmony Chorus has been cooking up a batch of catchy jingles for a local pie-making business instead.

Fresh from competing in Auckland, members found themselves on the risers with their male counterparts at Highland Harmony to record music for a *Who Ate All The Pie's* radio campaign.

Lancashire-born baker Steven Turner sells the popular pies at stores around New Zealand and it turns out he is a bit of a barbershop fan.

After hearing the men and women's barbershop groups performing at Highland Harmony's 25th anniversary concert this year, he asked if they'd be happy recording some jingles.

Both groups were happy to oblige and spent an evening articulating the range of flavours (from English pork pie,

to lamb, rosemary and thyme pies) to the tune of *Knees Up Mother Brown*.

As well as mouth-watering memories of delicious pies, it's fair to say the singers were also left with a bit of an ear-worm that took a few days to fade!

www.whoateallthepies.co.nz

**ANNA MCINTYRE
DUNEDIN HARMONY CHORUS**





We had seven members competing at regional for the first time (Jangsook, Angi, Rosie, Ria, Orna, Kim and Jane, pictured here with our membership team - Nikola and Alison - and Jocosa)

GAC's Turbulent Journey to Convention

The Greater Auckland Chorus (GAC) couldn't have been more excited to see the return of our regional convention after four long years, though the journey to get there was certainly a bumpy one. On top of the ever-present COVID reminding us it's still around, this year we also had to deal with multiple tropical storms and flooding like we've never seen before. Even our final rehearsal prior to contest had to be postponed 24 hours due to the most recent weather event. Thank goodness that storm didn't impact our fellow Sweet Adelines being able to get into Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland!

In January this year, we welcomed a formidable group of new members and three of them - Ria, Orna and Kim - were part of our 27 strong chorus on the contest stage at Voices at Victory. In addition, we had four members who joined us during COVID times, so had never been to a regional convention before. What a

joy to finally see them experience the singing highlight of our year!

We went into this contest with a mindset to be our most authentic selves, to sing with freedom and to trust the team and the plan. We were humbled and blown away to be awarded first place in Division A and delighted to come third overall. We have so much aroha for all our GAC members, including those who were unable to be on stage with us this year.

we look forward to continuing to learn and grow to new musical heights with our amazing team.

We accepted third place by performing 'Welcome Home', which was arranged by Kristina Roper in 2021. We were invited to sing this song by Auckland Airport, to welcome home New

Zealanders on the first flight from Australia when the borders reopened. We were given very little time to prepare. In no time at all our Event Coordinator, Fiona Maisey, was on the phone to Sir Dave Dobbyn's agent and got approval for us to arrange and perform the song. Kristina then smashed out an arrangement in 48 hours for a small group of ten to learn. Unfortunately, the flight was cancelled, more lockdowns continued, and the performance opportunity was lost. Getting to sing this song on stage to our singing whānau was incredibly special to us and those words came straight from the heart.

GAC would like to say a huge thanks to the organisers and volunteers who made Voices at Victory possible. Many congratulations to our fellow competitors as well! It was wonderful to reconnect, see you perform, and be together once again, at last.

CO-WRITTEN BY GAC MEMBERS





Music in the Glade

A few minute's drive from the centre of Nelson brings you to the Brook Waimarama Sanctuary, an area which was fenced off to create a haven for native flora and fauna safe from predators.

A stroll through native bush brings you to the Beech Glade, a clearing floored in timber and edged with matching seating. As part of their summer season of music, Nelson Bays Harmony performed a 30-minute concert with a variety of our repertoire songs, with only birdsong, not traffic, to compete with.

This was our new co-director Alex's first performance as director as she led us in our contest uptune, a change of role for her as in the past she has performed as part of a competing quartet and of a medal-winning chorus.

The programme was opened and closed with songs in Te Reo: Haere Mai and Te Aroha. In between was a variety of music from different eras, reflecting the chorus' wide repertoire, all in the barbershop style.

Toward the end of the concert a fellow Sweet Adeline, Kim Cairns from Whangārei, was invited to come from the audience to join in a couple of mass songs. Oh, the joy of belonging!

**JANET ROWLAND
NELSON BAYS HARMONY**

How Wonderful to Meet in Person!

Abigail Clarke (Whangarei Harmony Chorus) met up with fellow Arrangers Certification Programme Intermediate students in Brisbane at Region 34's convention. L-R: Abigail, Emily Moriarty (CAL Region 34, Three Docs and a Diva Quartet), Liz Hah (Wollongong Harmony Chorus Region 34). How wonderful to meet in person after two years of Zoom lessons!



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Kentucky Dance Party and 30th Birthday!

Waikato Rivertones Chorus really kicked up their heels on the 25th of March. The chorus was celebrating its 30th birthday as well as raising funds for their trip to the International Sweet Adeline Convention in Kentucky later this year. Coincidentally, it is also the 10th year with the fabulous Kate Sinclair holding the director reins. What an amazingly talented director (and quartetter!!) she is. Deeply respected by past and present members, highly

skilled with a great sense of humour and a true Sweet Adeline spirit. We love you Kate!

Assistant Director, Rowena Harper, is a member of the seven-piece band, Affirmation. The band generously donated their time and talents to entertain the crowd with lots of toe-tapping favourites.

The Tamahere Community Hall was decorated with a USA theme and

even the supper table was in keeping. Leanne Wheeler and Deb Petrin produced two magnificent cakes for this special function. Thank you to all who contributed to make the night a huge success.

**ADRIENNE WINDSOR
WAIKATO RIVERTONES CHORUS**



Congratulations to our 2023 Region 35 Chorus Award Winners!



SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND
11-14 MAY 2023 | TĀMAKI MAKAURAU AUCKLAND

1st Place - Christchurch City
2nd Place - Wellington City
3rd Place - Greater Auckland
4th Place - Bella A Cappella
5th Place - Faultline

Division A (Small Chorus)

1st Place - Greater Auckland
2nd Place - Bella A Cappella
3rd Place - Manawatu Overtones

Division AA (Midsize Chorus)

1st Place - Wellington City
2nd Place - Faultline
3rd Place - Nelson Bays Harmony

Most Improved Chorus (Regional Award) - Manawatu Overtones (+36 Points)

*Panel Chair		Smith			Schimdt			*Maybury			Postma			Naresh				
Contestant #	Name	Status	# on stage	Sound		Total	Music		Total	Expression		Total	Visual Communication		Total	Grand Total	Final Place	
				Song 1	Song 2		Song 1	Song 2		Song 1	Song 2		Song 1	Song 2				
9	Christchurch City Chorus	0	85	79	82	161	83	85	168	80	83	163	82	80	162	654	654	1
8	Wellington City Chorus	0	38	78	79	157	79	78	157	80	79	159	79	78	157	630	630	2
7	Greater Auckland Chorus	0	27	77	79	156	73	75	148	78	79	157	76	78	154	615	615	3
6	Bella A Cappella Chorus	0	13	72	72	144	69	71	140	72	71	143	73	72	145	572	572	4
4	Faultline Chorus	0	40	73	70	143	70	69	139	73	71	144	73	72	145	571	571	5
3	Manawatu Overtones Chorus	0	28	67	70	137	68	67	135	70	68	138	71	69	140	550	550	6
5	Nelson Bays Harmony Chorus	0	35	65	67	132	64	67	131	64	67	131	66	67	133	527	527	7
2	Dunedin Harmony Chorus	0	25	65	61	126	63	64	127	61	65	126	63	66	129	508	508	8
1	Waikato Rivertones Chorus	EVAL	36															

Christchurch City Chorus - 1st place overall



Wellington City Chorus
2nd place overall and 1st place Midsize Chorus



Greater Auckland Chorus
3rd place overall and 1st place Small Chorus



Congratulations to our 2023 Region 35 Quartet Award Winners!



SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND
11-14 MAY 2023 | TĀMAKI MAKAURAU AUCKLAND

- 1st Place - Unlimited!
- 2nd Place - Zeal
- 3rd Place - Euphoria
- 4th Place - Focus
- 5th Place - Level Up

Novice Quartet - Voilá

Monst Improved Quartet (Regional Award)
Measured 4 Sound (+80 points)

*Panel Chair		Smith			Schimdt			*Maybury			Postma			Naresh			
Contestant		Sound			Music			Expression			Visual Communication			Total	Pity	Grand Total	Place
#	Name	Song 1	Song 2	Total	Song 1	Song 2	Total	Song 1	Song 2	Total	Song 1	Song 2	Total	Total			
3	Unlimited	82	78	160	79	80	159	82	79	161	81	79	160	640		640	1
10	ZEAL	75	77	152	76	77	153	78	76	154	77	78	155	614		614	2
2	EUPHORIA	73	75	148	73	72	145	73	72	145	76	75	151	589		589	3
4	FOCUS	73	73	146	69	68	137	74	73	147	74	75	149	579		579	4
11	Level Up!	71	73	144	70	69	139	74	71	145	73	72	145	573		573	5
5	The Low-Down	72	70	142	71	70	141	69	68	137	67	66	133	553		553	6
6	Measured 4 Sound	66	63	129	68	66	134	66	64	130	69	66	135	528		528	7
9	Voilá	66	69	135	59	60	119	66	69	135	68	69	137	526		526	8
8	Intersection	57	61	118	67	65	132	59	60	119	66	65	131	500		500	9
1	TONIC	59	62	121	62	60	122	60	61	121	64	61	125	489		489	10
1b	Legato	53	50	103	56	53	109	52	48	100	56	50	106	418		418	11
1a	Mistral	50	50	100	54	51	105	51	54	105	55	52	107	417		417	12
7	Tukutahi	26	26	52	41	40	81	38	34	72	40	41	81	286		286	13



Unlimited! - 1st Place



Zeal - 2nd Place



Euphoria - 3rd Place



Thanks to our Voices at Victory Volunteers



SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND
11-14 MAY 2023 | TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU AUCKLAND

Our Voices at Victory weekend was only possible because of the fantastic volunteers working behind the scenes. Thank you all so much.

Convention Team & Helpers

- Chair Regional Convention – Jacqui Binnie
- Competition Coordinator – Kerry Stewart
- Convention Facilities – Miriam Spragg
- Official Panel Liaison – Marian Jones
- Panel Secretary – Cindy Naresh
- Contest Pages – Sharon Connor, Marilyn Bishop
- Registrar – Tasha Black
- Website Updates - Sharon Connor
- Emcees – Liz Moncrieff, Emma Worthington, Fy Tait
- Stage Management – Richard Harker
- AV Team Assistants – Tosh Mackevics, Miriam Spragg
- Risers & Transport Planning – Raenette Taljaard, Richard Harker
- Traffic Pattern Friday – Carolyn Currington, Jo Maxwell, Leanne Wheeler, Leigh Whitelaw, Mary Cave-Palmer, Jen Meadows
- Traffic Pattern Saturday – Colleen Wakefield, Loro Shandler, Andrew Cox, Rachael Cox, Sarah Litchfield, Barbara Moore, Linda Baker, Nicole Kuek (Sounds of the Shore)
- Shuttle drivers on Friday – Dee Parks, Roseanne Brook, Marilyn Miller (Sounds of the Shore)
- Registration Desk Coordinator – Dee Parks
- Registration Desk Helpers – Deb Kessell-Haak, Dee Parks, Judi Caradus, Justine O'Connell, Linda Baker, Linda Lewis, Melanie Fowke, Sarah Litchfield, Selena Bernath, Vanessa Kelly
- Awards Coordinator – Kim Cairns
- Awards Assistant – Jan Sherley
- Registration Pouch Assembly – Angela Blank, Heather Camp, Marilyn Bishop
- Calligraphy – Bernadette Takacs, Shirley Munro-Holmes
- Pack Up Assistance – Shelley Bascand
- Transport assistance – City of Sails Chorus members
- Photo Board Displays – Lesley Standing

Plus a BIG thank you to all other volunteers and helpers throughout the weekend.

Regional Management Team

- Leigh Whitelaw - Team Coordinator
- Carolyn Currington - Directors' Coordinator
- Mary Cave-Palmer - Finance Coordinator
- Julie Earl - Events Coordinator (Non-Contest) (incoming)
- Ann-marie Francis - Events Coordinator (Non-Contest) (outgoing)
- Miriam Spragg - Membership Coordinator
- Jo Maxwell - Marketing Coordinator (outgoing)
- Leanne Wheeler - Education Coordinator
- Jenny Meadows - Communications Coordinator (outgoing)

Supported by our fabulous Regional Resource Team.





VOICES AT VICTORY

SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND
11-14 MAY 2023 | TĀMAKI MAKĀURAU AUCKLAND



MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Shooting Star Award



Congratulations to Leigh Agnew from Christchurch City Chorus, our inaugural Shooting Star Awards winner.

Nominators Christchurch City Chorus say "Leigh Agnew came to Christchurch City Chorus just a few months before COVID was about to arrive on our doorstep. That didn't stop Leigh from getting involved in chorus life with a huge smile and a positive attitude. Leigh joined the Front Row of Christchurch City Chorus soon after we returned to chorus from lockdown. Being quick to learn and having a positive attitude are assets to the Front Row team.

In 2021, she was persuaded to join the Management Team, stating at her first meeting she would be able to take on the Finance Coordinator's Role. She has been a valued member of our Management Team. With realistic and achievable goals, she is always encouraging and committed to finding resolutions for difficult tasks.

She took on the role as Convention Coordinator for the 2022 Regional

Convention, a task which has served her well, in preparation for our trip to Auckland this year.

During lockdown, our chorus used ZOOM as a means of connecting with our members, our leaders and others in the Sweet Adeline's organization. On our return to chorus, ZOOM was no longer the best option for those who needed to learn from home instead of attending rehearsal. Leigh has set us up with Facebook Live Stream and is always prepared at the beginning of rehearsal, sharing videos, audio clips and music on the big screen to make learning easier for all.

Leigh has also joined a small group of singers within Christchurch City Chorus, being committed to learning extra music and sharing her love of singing. She is part of the future of our chorus, having knowledge of the Sweet Adeline's organization, being a member of the Management Team, Front Row and she is committed to chorus with her obliging, respectful and supportive manner."

Congratulations Leigh!



Congratulations to our 2023 Shooting Star Award Nominees:

Leigh Agnew - Christchurch City
Jordan Ridgway - Waikato
Rivertones

The new annual Shooting Star Award recognises a newer member who has made a great impact in a short time. A burst of energy, they have brought fresh enthusiasm, passion, talent and ideas to their chorus and are a potential future leader. For SANZ members of less than 3 years.

Rock Star Award



Congratulations to TeeJay Bannister from Faultline Chorus our inaugural Rock Star Award Winner.

Nominators Faultline Chorus say "Faultline knew we were lucky to find TeeJay the first night she walked in the door 9 years ago. It only took a moment to see we had a rock star in our midst - a stunning lead voice and a performer you couldn't take your eyes off.

We didn't know we were doubly lucky and that TeeJay was also going to be a rock star behind the scenes. Management and Music

Team Member, Section Leader, Visual Communication Team, tech support, and a superb role model doing everything with passion and flair.

As a relatively new member, TeeJay poured her skills and passion into the Publicity & Information role on the management team, transforming our weekly chorus communications and finetuning our membership drive and marketing material into detailed project plans we have been able to keep using successfully for many years.

When asked to step up into a leadership role on our music team,



TeeJay didn't hesitate and has been our lead section leader for the past six years. She goes above and beyond in this role - providing

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MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

amazing resources, detailed individual feedback and development plans for the section, teaching and demonstrating craft and is always available with a supportive ear. A fiercely proud leader she advocates for and celebrates her section.

TeeJay also contributes to our visual communication team, both out in front of the chorus supporting the visual learning and behind the scenes planning performance packages and running stage makeup sessions.

TeeJay is also awesome tech support - setting up for live streaming rehearsals, or handling the tech side seamlessly on zoom rehearsals, along with spending hours uploading and time-stamping coaching videos.

Beyond the chorus, TeeJay used her fabulous vocal skills to record the voice over for Region 35's Sweet Adelines International Travel in Tune promotional video. She was co-host for the Harmony Aotearoa - The At Home Edition virtual convention in 2022. For both projects she gave of her time and talent without hesitation. Recently, TeeJay recorded learning material for our new regional song Pepeha. We believe TeeJay is the ultimate Rock Star!"

Congratulations TeeJay!

Congratulations to all our 2023 Rock Star Award Nominees:

Carole Brown - Nelson Bays Harmony
Christine Hommel - Waikato Rivertones
Fiona Maisey - Greater Auckland
Jacqui Cox - Whangarei Harmony
Marian Jones - SouthCity Soundz
TeeJay Bannister - Faultline
Vicki Cumber - Bella A Cappella

The new annual Rock Star Award recognises a member who is a 'rock star' behind the scenes. They have contributed an enormous amount to their chorus, undertaken many tasks, team or support roles over the years. They are hardworking, dependable, and make chorus life easier. This award is open to members of Sweet Adelines NZ with more than 3 years' membership.

Spirit Award

Congratulations to Mary Ann Zorovic from Greater Auckland Chorus our 2023 Spirit Award Winner!

Nominators Greater Auckland Chorus say "After many years of extraordinary service to our chorus, and to the Region, Mary Ann Zorovic will soon be stepping back to enjoy a much-deserved retirement with her husband in Croatia.

There are no current members of GAC who can remember a time before Mary Ann. She has always been a consistent, reliable presence in the Lead Section, has quietly and capably managed the chorus finances, including through recent challenging periods with Covid disruption, and is always ready to support fundraising endeavours, no matter how outlandish they may be!. Mary Ann has attended International Convention an astonishing 9 times as a competing chorus member.

Mary Ann is always thinking ahead, planning how to manage various upcoming expenditure and to give the chorus timely information about fees and payments, as well as quietly supporting those members who experience financial challenges. As a member on the risers, Mary Ann's attendance record is exemplary and she can always be relied on to attend every performance opportunity. Those who know Mary Ann will be aware of her immaculate personal presentation – beautifully colour coordinated outfits with amazing shoes – and the jewellery! Mary Ann's skill with makeup and hair has made her a key member of the team on performance and contest days, with many members seeking her out for advice and guidance. She has been at the very heart of our chorus for many years, always listening, thinking about how to make things easier for people, expressing kind words and always ready for a chuckle.



Mary Ann has also provided many year service to the Region as our Regional Finance Coordinator from 2014-2019 and a trustee on the Prue Blythe Memorial Trust supporting YWIH for over 8 years.

We are so sad that Mary Ann is leaving us, but we salute her legacy to us and would like to have that acknowledged by the Region in this very special way".

Congratulations Mary Ann.

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MEMBERSHIP AWARDS

Congratulations to all our 2023 Spirit Award Nominees:

Hazel Hay - Christchurch City
Jacqui Binnie - Faultline
Kate Sinclair - Waikato Rivertones
Lesley Standring - Sounds of Hawkes Bay
Mary Ann Zorovic - Greater Auckland
Sheryl Willis - SouthCity Soundz

The annual Spirit Award recognises a member who epitomises the spirit of our organisation. They have not only contributed to chorus life, but also taken that extra step to carry the 'spirit' of Sweet Adelines beyond their chorus, within the region and as a great ambassador for us in the wider community.

Service to Young Women in Harmony Award

Congratulations to Bernadette Takacs - Sweet Adelines New Zealand Service to Young Women in Harmony Award recipient for 2023!

Bernadette was nominated by her chorus Wellington City Chorus who say:

Bernadette comes from a family which can only be described as "singers on steroids". Along with this backdrop, this woman has a rich history of singing not only barbershop, but also her participation in church choirs, solo singing at weddings, funerals and other events. She has been involved in musical theatre and jazz bands, and has brought a unique set of skills and experience to our Sweet Adelines family.

But it's what she does for young women that really makes her shine. When her own children were attending her old school, she coached the school choir. Soon after joining Sweet Adelines, she was invited to judge the young women's contests, and she volunteered to coach the girls' chorus at the school soon after that. Over the years there have been several successes - the school has had two second places in the national quartet competition and the Chorus has reached 5th and 3rd in the nationals. There is some very stiff competition both in Wellington and other NZ regions, so these competitors from a little school have managed to regularly punch above their weight.

Anybody who works with young women in that age group will know that it entails a lot more than standing in front of a group and coaching the singing. There are all the dramas connected with costuming for the quartets, choreography, the story plan, and other associated challenges.

And so it has been for nearly 25 years.

On a totally voluntary basis, she continues to coach barbershop choruses and quartets. This involves weekly coaching at her old school, as well as preparing the chorus and numerous quartets over the years for the regional YWIH contests. Though she is a volunteer, the school treats her like one of the team – even inviting her to present at prize-givings for the Cultural Awards.

It has often occurred to the writer that this woman missed her true calling. While she excels at many things, and may not agree, she is a born teacher. Her energy and enthusiasm, along with her enjoyment of the barbershop craft, shines through in all the groups of young women she has brought to contest-readiness over the years. When asked what her motivation was, she said "I just wanted to help them and help them improve".

Many of our current members have been inspired by our old music teachers, and it is certain that the mahi that this recipient has put in over the years has resulted in young



women being inspired to join our organisation later in life. Indeed, parents of those young women have often thanked this recipient for inspiring their children.

Wellington City Chorus wholeheartedly endorses this nomination for Bernadette Takacs to receive the YWIH Award. In our eyes she is deserving of this Award not just for the various achievements that her groups have made, but for the selfless willingness she has demonstrated for such a long time to promote the craft.

The annual Service to Young Women in Harmony Award award is presented in recognition of dedication to supporting YWIH in barbershop in New Zealand.

Education Scholarship



Congratulations to Alex Charlton - Sweet Adelines New Zealand Education Scholarship recipient for 2023!

Alex will be using the Education Scholarship towards travelling to the USA to further her barbershop education, and is planning to attend either Harmony University in 2023 or the 2024 International Education Symposium.

This scholarship supports a member or Director of Region 35 to gain new skills, ideas, and contacts to benefit both the individual and the region. It subsidises training to the value of \$1,500, and the award recipient is selected by the previous scholarship recipients.

Congratulations Rowena!

Congratulations to **Rowena Harper** who was presented the official pin at Voices at Victory in recognition of her successful completion of the Arranger Certification Programme recently.

Rowena's arrangement of A Million Dreams is already one of our most popular regional songs, and she has a growing collection of fantastic arrangements that are being enjoyed by singers worldwide.



Merit Pins

Jo Maxwell (Faultline Chorus) was presented a Region 35 Merit Pin recognising 6 years of service this time round on the Regional Management Team in the role of Marketing Coordinator. Merit Pins are awarded by the Regional Management Team to members who have made an outstanding contribution to the Region.

Kerry Stewart (Christchurch City Chorus) was recognised with a Region 35 Merit Pin in 2022 for service on the Regional Management Team in the role of Education Coordinator. Kerry's award was unable to be presented in person last year.

Honourable Mention

Miriam Spragg (Christchurch City Chorus) was acknowledged with a Region 35 Honourable Mention in recognition of her work as Convention Facilities Coordinator.



Membership Milestones

Congratulations to our members celebrating 25 and 30 year membership milestones in 2023:

Celebrating
25 Years
of Membership!



Celebrating 30 Years of Membership!



Ode to 3 Makes 100



When we joined the Front Row, we were three young lasses. Collectively 100 years on and we're still kicking a.....!

It's been quite a journey OH the places we've been. From Portland to Hawaii (not to mention Calgary, Houston, San Antonio, Vegas, Carnegie) and twice to New Orleans.

From the highs to the lows and all the in-betweens. We've experienced it all, OH except for being Queens.

We've ticked a few boxes over the cumulative years Top Ten and Top Five Showmanship/Choreo-extraordinaries.

Youngest Team Coordinator to guide us all through. Not an easy task to corral this chorus crew.

Fundraising, costuming and emcee work too. Let's not forget to mention Quartetting for two.

Showmanship Leader deserves a special ode. This role ticks 100 boxes all on its own!

And what is it that keeps us here singing and dancing. The friendships, experiences are sure life-enhancing.

We've laughed, joked, and cried together singing on stage. What could be better when you get to our age!

What happens on tour we've always got that bond. 'Friends Forever' we can still sing that song.

Check us out on the front row forever and a day! We'll be dragged off on zimmer frames if we have our way!

BY DEBORAH GODMAN, ELIZABETH SEXTON, AND NICKY MCCAUGHAN - CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS' LONGEST SERVING FRONT ROW MEMBERS

NZ CHAPTER CONTACTS

BELLA A CAPPELLA CHORUS

Director: Patti Cooke
TC: Gaye Dawn, g.dawn@slingshot.co.nz
Meets: Thursdays 6.30pm
Kerikeri Masonic Lodge, Masonic Lane
2 Cobham Road, Kerikeri 0293
Ph 09 405 8773 / 021 0233 8126
bellaacappellanz.com

CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS

Director: Virginia Humphrey-Taylor
TC: Andrea Ward
rac.rah@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Wednesdays 7pm
Cashmere High Performing Arts Centre
61 Barrington St, Christchurch
Ph 027 281 0401
ccchorus.co.nz

DUNEDIN HARMONY CHORUS

Director: Robyn Abernethy
TC: Glenda Mann
gmandjt@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Tuesdays 7.30pm
Andersons Bay Bowling Club
Bayfield Road, Dunedin
Ph 03 489 5186
dunedin.harmonysite.com

FAULTLINE CHORUS

Director: Carolyn Currington
TC: Jacqui Binnie
faultlinechorus@gmail.com
Meets: Wednesdays 7.30pm
Salvation Army Crossroads
Cnr High / Cuba Sts,
Petone, Wellington
Ph 022 492 2034
faultline.org.nz

FOVEAUX HARMONY CHORUS

Director: Sarah Rae
TC: Helen Rook
fhcmanage2012@gmail.com
Meets: Thursdays 7pm
U.F.S Hall, 76 Tay St, Invercargill
Ph 027 776 3020
foveauxharmony.co.nz

GREATER AUCKLAND CHORUS

Director: Jocosa Bruce
TC: Jennifer Caldwell, jcaldwell@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Tuesdays 7pm
College of Education - Music Building
Gate 3, Building B, 74 Epsom Ave
Epsom, Auckland
Ph 021 624 162
greateraucklandchorus.com

MANAWATU OVERTONES CHORUS

Co-Directors: Sylvia Fountain & Liz Watts
TC: Stephanie Greaney
skgreaney@outlook.com
Meets: Tuesdays 7pm
Palmerston North Community Leisure
Centre, 569 Ferguson St, Palmerston North
Ph 021 616 246
facebook.com/ManawatuOvertones

NELSON BAYS HARMONY CHORUS

Co-Directors: Eileen Smith & Alex Charlton
TC: Trish Armstrong
Tiarstrong@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Thursdays 7pm
Club Waimea, Lower Queen St
Richmond. Ph 022 1362 856
nelsonharmony.org.nz

SOUNDS OF HAWKES BAY CHORUS

Director: Situation vacant
TC: Vikki Fuller
higof@actrix.co.nz
Meets: Thursdays 7.15pm
Clive School, 57 School Rd, Clive
Ph 06 875 1175 / 017 747 0398
soundsofhawkesbaychorus.co.nz

SOUNDS OF THE SHORE CHORUS

(Prospective)
Director: Richard Harker
TC: Raenette Taljaard
soundsoftheshore@gmail.com
raenette.taljaard@gmail.com
Meets: Thursdays 7pm
Northcote War Memorial Hall, Auckland
Ph 021 265 4498
soundsoftheshorechorus.com

SOUTHCITY SOUNDZ CHORUS

Director: Cheryl Weijermars
TC: Fleur de Farias
defarias@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 7.15pm
Papatoetoe Cosmopolitan Club Inc.
53 Rangitoto Rd, Papatoetoe
Ph 027 389 5430
facebook.com/SouthCity-Soundz

TARANAKI HARMONY CHORUS

Director: Gill Holmes
TC: Carol Chapman
caroljchapman@hotmail.com
Meets: Wednesdays 7pm
The Mamaku Centre,
6 Mamaku St, Inglewood 4330
Ph 021 0267 2311
taranakiharmony.co.nz

WAIKATO RIVERTONES CHORUS

Director: Kate Sinclair
TC: Julie Earl
enquiries@waikatorivertones.com
Meets: Mondays 7pm
Marian School Hall, Clyde St, Hamilton
Ph 027 500 5564
waikatorivertones.com

WELLINGTON CITY CHORUS

Co-Directors: David Brooks & Jo Hodgson
TC: Claire Takacs
claireandacky@gmail.com
Meets: Mondays 7pm
Wellington Bridge Club,
17 Tinakori Rd, Wellington
Ph 021 401 865
wellingtoncitychorus.org

WHANGAREI HARMONY CHORUS

Director: Christien Oberholster
TC: Mary Hamilton
duncan.mary@xtra.co.nz
Meets: Mondays 6.30pm
Brass Band Hall, Dyer St, Whangārei
Ph 027 408 7917 / 09 437 7456
whangareiharmony.org.nz

REGION 35 SWEET ADELINES NEW ZEALAND

Mission:

Elevating women singers in New Zealand through education, performance, and competition in barbershop harmony and a cappella music.

Vision:

A diverse community of women enriching lives through song.

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Instagram: @sweetadsnz | #sweetadsnz | #sweetadelinesnz

WE ARE SWEET ADELINES

Founded in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in 1945, Sweet Adelines started as a small group of women who loved to sing. Since then, it has evolved into an organization that spans the globe connecting thousands of singers around the world in song. We're dedicated to preserving the unique sound of a cappella barbershop harmony, sharing our passion for music and empowering our community in every area of their lives.

Region 35 sends
best wishes
to Waikato Rivertones and
Unlimited as they represent
NZ in Kentucky this
November.!



A cappella with attitude!