

# The Addaline

Sweet Adelines New Zealand Region 35

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REAL WOMEN - REAL HARMONY - REAL FUN





## Let's get together and share our music in Dunedin - the 'Edinburgh of the South'

### SWEET ADDALINE NZ CONVENTION 2017

- ✓ Dunedin you say? Hasn't it got the only mainland albatross breeding colony where you can see these wonderful birds close-up? It sure has! Tick!
- ✓ Hasn't it got the unique Olveston homestead, left as the Theomin family lived? Yes it does! Tick!
- ✓ Does it have so many restaurants on the main street, it would be quite hard to count them all? Absolutely! Tick!
- ✓ And has it got a beautiful, gracious town hall where, wait for it, THE 2017 SWEET ADELINES CONVENTION is going to be held? Oh yes it does! A big, big tick!

And are we going to raise the roof, in the best, most unique, most magical barbershop singing next April 20-23? Yes we are! We'll cause the bard himself, Robbie Burns of Ayrshire, sitting outdoors in The Octagon, in all his stoney majesty, to raise his eyebrow in stoic surprise. What a weekend it will be.

The City of Dunedin has a rich tradition of many things. A compact city, surrounded by hills, with a vibrancy that words cannot really express adequately, but which must be visited in order that its richness can be tasted, touched and experienced. Our Dunedin Town Hall with its world-renowned acoustics is the ideal place to have our convention. It has a charm and an ambience which lends itself to music. You will be thrilled at how our four-part harmony will sound.

It's going to be a weekend of competition, teaching and of course the after glow - TINSEL & TARTAN. A night of fun, food, fashion (tartan with a sparkle) and of course dancing.

We have great hotels and many excellent motels in the vicinity of the Dunedin Town Hall where you will be very comfortable. We have bars, cafés and restaurants both casual and up-market.

Hey! why don't you stay a few extra days! There is the Toitu Museum, one of Dunedin's prized jewels alongside many, many other attractions.



*Clare Pascoe from Dunedin Harmony Chorus is the winner of this year's convention design competition. Her design incorporates two Dunedin icons - the Dunedin tartan and an albatross. Thanks also to Waikato Rivertones member Brianna Perry for adapting Clare's design from the original drawings to the completed article.*

'Distinctly Dunedin' is the name of Region 35 Convention 2017 and you'll be assured of the warmest of welcomes. And remember: "Guid gear comes in sma' bulk"! Which means, "Good things come in small packages" and that's Dunedin in a nut-shell.

Let's get together and share our special musical craft in Dunedin - the 'Edinburgh of the South'.

**BY JENNIFER WARD**



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*Cover photo and Las Vegas contest photos by Read Photography*

## Message from Trish

Congratulations to all our international participants at Las Vegas. Both Aftershock and MOLTO! did our Region proud; and of course Christchurch City Chorus achieved 5th placing. That's 5th in the world, which is stupendous. Sweet Adelines from all over New Zealand, Australia and Sweden joined in with Christchurch City Chorus to achieve this – thank you to all for such a riveting performance.

Not only that, the Education Direction Committee and International Board of Directors has advised Virginia Humphrey-Taylor that she has attained the highest level of musical leadership in the Director Certification Program — Master Director 700. This was by virtue of the score received at the 2016 International Chorus Finals Competition, as well as previously completed requirements for the level of master director. Congratulations Virginia – we are proud to have such a luminary in our midst!

Your Regional Management Team met in Dunedin in November to

inspect the beautifully refurbished Dunedin Town Hall, which is where Convention is being held in 2017. The enthusiasm of the Dunedin Convention Team is wonderful to see, and the RMT thanks both that team, and Claire Takacs who joined us, to ensure convention in 2017 is sure to be a smoothly run and totally enjoyable event.

On behalf of the NZ Regional Management Team, I'd like to wish each and every one of our members a very happy festive season, and a safe and relaxing New Year. As we move into the festive season, let's remember our members who have health or other problems that may prevent them from being with us at our sing-outs and rehearsals. Let's reach out to them to let them know they're valued and remembered, and that their past contributions have all helped to make us the organisation that we are.

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# Christchurch City Chorus – 5th placed international chorus

At the 2016 Sweet Adelines International Competition held in October the Christchurch City Chorus attained three outstanding achievements:

- 5th place Chorus
- Most Entertaining Chorus
- Master Director 700  
Virginia Humphrey-Taylor

This is the 8th time the Chorus has competed on the international stage. They last performed internationally in 2013 in Honolulu placing 6th.

The journey to compete in Las Vegas #2 began when Christchurch City Chorus became the Region 35 champion chorus in 2015. The Chorus then committed to its goal of eclipsing its previous performances and results. This also meant committing to the many hours of rehearsal and personal practice that this would require. This included at least one weekend per month of additional coaching from wonderful international coaches including:

- Three time Queen of Harmony Kim Vaughn
- Choreographers extraordinaire Lynne Smith and Renée Porzel
- International Champion Chorus Directors; Britt-Helène Bonnedahl, Lori Lyford, Jana Gutenson, Jim Arns

- Master Directors Darlene Rogers and Ryan Heller
- Pitch Perfect Musical Director Deke Sharon
- International Expression Judge Lea Beverley

In Las Vegas, the Chorus undertook over 40 hours of rehearsal, many kilometres of walking (it's a long walk to anything at the MGM Hotel) and a show with Rönninge Show Chorus (2017 International Champion Chorus). Throughout their stay in Las Vegas, the Chorus received encouragement and fine-tuning from their ever-supportive coaches as well as rehearsal visits from Queens of Harmony.

The Chorus took to the international stage with 133 members whose ages ranged from 21 to 79 years. This included two sets of mother and daughter and seven sets of sisters! It was great to share the experience with many out of town members who represented choruses from three Sweet Adeline Regions – Region 35 New Zealand, Region 34 Southern Cross (Australia) and Region 32 Nordic Light (Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden). It was also particularly pleasing to be able to support MOLTO! and Aftershock! in the quartet competition in Las Vegas.

Carole Persinger, International Expression Judge, says of the Chorus' finals package "your strong musicality enabled you to get through this demanding and awesome performance".

The Christchurch City Chorus is now looking forward to its next challenges and developing further as a chorus. They would like to thank all the members of Regions 35, 34 and 32, and their families and friends for their support throughout this journey.

BY CAROLINE









# A letter from Paula Davis, International President!

3 November 2016



*Dear Virginia and members of Christchurch City Chorus,*

*It is such a pleasure to congratulate you on your fifth place finish in Las Vegas! You prepared for your performances all year long, and you shared your beautiful music with a very appreciative audience. They loved your semifinals set, and your finals package was so much fun! You certainly danced your way into everyone's heart! Your Most Entertaining Award reflected your connection with the audience and the wonderful entertainment you brought to all viewing your performance. Your energy is amazing and you bring your own unique joy and entertainment in all you do. We will wait in anticipation to see what you will do next!*

*Your commitment to musical excellence and your hard work all came together in the sounds and sights we enjoyed so much. Your joyful competition performances provided a fantastic educational opportunity for Sweet Adelines and the barbershop community as a whole. Thank you for modeling a standard that we all hope to achieve.*

*Enjoy your year as fifth place medalists and cherish the holiday season with your friends and family. The International Board of Directors congratulate you on this accomplishment and look forward to seeing what 2017 has in store for you!*

*In Harmony,*

*Paula Davis  
International President*










*Learning the songs "Royals" and "Love Me."  
Virginia Humphrey-Taylor at the helm.*



# Whangarei Harmony

## Chorus' delight

Back in early September, Whangarei Harmony Chorus was delighted to host Virginia Humphrey-Taylor and some of the girls from He Tangata NZ Show Chorus.

Several of the Whangarei Harmony girls are members of He Tangata. We had a weekend workshop and were so pleased that they came north to be with us.

As a small chorus we can only benefit from the experience and in preparation, we had learnt two new songs, so we were able to join in with them.

Also in hosting He Tangata, it gave us the opportunity to polish up our singing and get some expert coaching from Virginia. Virginia's manner and coaching style is always a delight to experience and learn from.

There is something special about singing with other Sweet Adelines and so during the weekend, new friendships were formed and old ones cemented. A few Bella A Cappella ladies joined us on Saturday too.

We made sure we allowed time for fun as well! We had an enjoyable meal out Friday and Saturday evening, with the Saturday evening meal being followed by some singing and some skits.

We have some wonderful cooks in our chorus and a big thank you again to all the ladies that made up the lunches and provided morning and afternoon tea for us all. Real gems.

I imagine everyone returned home after the weekend a few kilograms heavier, but all saying, "Let's do this again!"

**BY MARY HAMILTON  
WHANGAREI HARMONY CHORUS  
AND HE TANGATA MEMBER**



*Virginia and some He Tangata girls, enjoying dinner Friday night before rehearsal.*



# Virginia Humphrey-Taylor Master Director 700!



"How proud I am of all of you and past members who supported the dream along the way. Many people share in this amazing achievement including our families and friends."

The main quality that Virg wants you to know about is that she loves being part of people's lives and teaching them how to perform at a higher level. She has a deep love of humanity and is always working toward achievement of higher levels personally and with others. She makes things happen; sometimes it seems magically! And loves nothing more than hearing people laughing and singing fabulously.

She is extremely thankful for the wonderful life Sweet Adelines has brought to her and for all of the marvellous people she continues to meet and have as part of her life. She adores her own chorus with a passion hard to surpass and her greatest love is singing with others of like mind.

There is nothing to compare with the wonderful thrill of matching voices, female and male and to have deep spiritual experiences while singing this gorgeous craft.

AD

## Please help the Waikato Rivertones get to Las Vegas in 2017!

**The chorus is holding 4 raffles for a beautiful Sweet Adelines tee. There are 4 to be won (1 each in sizes S, M, L and XL) and all you have to do is buy tickets for the size of your choice and you will be in the draw to win it!**



These high-quality tees are custom-designed by one of our members in a flattering 3/4 sleeve, V-neck style with lots of sparkle.

### **Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5**

and are available from any Waikato Rivertones member. The draws for all 4 tees will be held on April 15, 2017, so the lucky winners can have theirs in time to wear at Regional convention in Dunedin!

For more information or to purchase tickets, please contact the Waikato Rivertones c/o Jill Kobayashi:  
jill\_koby@hotmail.com

Thanks so much for your support!







# Riding the Song Train

It has been a real journey for Foveaux Harmony Chorus over the last six to seven weeks travelling through a wide variety of singing styles and events.

Our first event was at the Arrowtown Spring Arts Festival and it was a great privilege to be asked to participate in this Festival. They had heard of us through word of mouth and we grabbed the opportunity to raise our profile and share our craft.

As part of Foveaux's contribution to the festival, the chorus held a morning workshop and people registered to attend. The attendees were a talented and enthusiastic bunch and quickly got to grips with the song we were teaching them, moves and all! We also performed in a free concert later that day where they joined us on stage for one of our favourite repertoire songs, the Abba Medley, with lots of support from their family and friends. Although Arrowtown isn't exactly in the catchment area for an Invercargill chorus, we made sure to introduce all the workshop ladies to one of our members who commutes each week from nearby Glenorchy (only

a three hour drive each way) and discussions are under way to set up a satellite group in the Queenstown area. This was a great chance to show off the Sweet Adelines craft to a wider audience. We all really enjoyed the weekend and received lots of positive feedback.

Awaiting us when we got home was a request from one of our Southern Institute of Technology students, Betsy Knox, to be a back-up group for one of the songs in her final assessment. We had two weeks to put it together and we were definitely up to it. Not something we'd ever done before but we loved the song 'Bathe in the River' and the soloist, Ma Bradshaw from The Vixen oozed soul from every note in her rendition of Hollie Smith's hit.

*"We were as taken with her as she was with us when she heard us backing her for the first time."*

The performance with a full backing band, sung to a full house went

really well and we revelled in a standing ovation before heading to a local restaurant for dessert and coffee to celebrate. It is especially warming to have students come up to you to say how amazing the song was and how the backing was amazing!!

No time to rest on our laurels. The very next weekend we were singing at Singfest. An event held each year to celebrate choirs in Invercargill and the surrounding area. There was a real mixture of choirs, with two men's groups, mixed choirs and we were the only all women's group. Foveaux Harmony set the standard for the afternoon concert as the first group up, singing three songs from our current repertoire. 'Loch Lomond', arranged by Traci Voss was a favourite. The haunting violin solo by Jo Williamson sets the scene for this song and we are so fortunate to have the beautiful voice of Amy Polaschek, a new member, to sing the solo part in this song. You could have heard a pin drop when we finished, before the applause began.

All the while during these last few weeks we had also been rehearsing

*continued over page*



for a major fundraiser to raise money for our local hospice. Our chorus had been invited to sing in the 100+ choir for the “Last Night of the Proms.” Sarah Rae, our Director, was the choir director and led the several combined rehearsals we had together before joining with the Ascot Park Brass Band and the Invercargill Symphonia for the final practices and on the night under the direction of Matthew Dick.

This was a glittering occasion at our local Civic Theatre with a royal reception beforehand and then on to the grand event. We wore our elegant black velvet costumes for the first half and sang some wonderful songs including ‘Barcelona’ and ‘O Fortuna: Carmina Burana.’ Half time saw us all changing into our own versions of red, white and blue and heading on stage for a fun-filled but exacting second half including the classics traditional for the Last Night of the Proms. The choir did the Can-Can with white gloves under ultra-violet light and this seemed to be an unexpected highlight for many people. An amazing evening enjoyed by both audience and performers, with a huge amount being raised for the hospice.



More – yes there is more. Three days later we were singing at our local Calvary Rest Home for Melbourne Cup Day, with some of our songs becoming a bit of a sing-a-long for the parts they knew.

Overwhelming? Almost! Invigorating and challenging? Definitely. Special is the fact that our six new members have done the journey with us, learnt all the songs and loved every minute of it as much as the rest of us do. Now starts the slippery slide into

Christmas with lots of requests for us to sing out, in fact more than double what we usually do. Here’s to Christmas and barbershop singing!!

**BY RAEWYN BIRSS  
AND ANN-MARIE FRANCIS**

# Diary of an OOTM

BY RUTH TOWNSEND

I've just flown back from Vegas, where I sang upon the stage  
T'was quite a novel thing to do, especially at my age!  
I joined the Christchurch Chorus on their journey to the top  
And what an awesome time it's been, immersed in barbershop.

The hard work started months ago, rehearsing in our homes  
Then flying across country to blend our overtones  
With all those Christchurch lasses, what a stellar bunch they are  
As well as other OOTMs who arrived from near and far.

They made us all so welcome, they drove us in their vans  
And fed and housed us every month, and raised a heap of funds!  
We learned from world class coaches, where do they get their talent?  
They each gave us another gem to build into our package.

And driving us, behind it all, was Virg, our great Director  
Who saw the vision and the goal and pushed to make them happen.  
With months of work and planning with her mighty mighty teams  
They nailed the songs, the choreo, the costumes and the dreams.

It wasn't always easy, things didn't always go as planned  
We had our share of ups and downs, and sometimes things were canned  
Cancelled flights and sickness and, when we were nearly through,  
Half the Chorus battling the dreaded Vegas flu.

But when we got up on that stage, we glittered and we shone  
We shared our love of barbershop with those Sweet Adelines  
We thrilled our friends and family, won the Audience Award  
And Christchurch City Chorus came home Fifth in all the World!





# Greater Auckland Chorus

## 2016 Production - “Gotta Get Out of this Town!”

Producer and chorus member Joanna Lyes promised, “funk, factions, and infighting – all with an a cappella twist” – and she wasn’t wrong! This was GAC’s third foray into musical theatre, coming hard on the heels of Trick & Treat in 2014, and Vegas Here We Come! in 2015, also created by Joanna. She said, “We were honing the skills we learned from previous shows – this genre proved to be a great learning tool for everyone. The chorus is full of talented women and we were so excited to share this with our audiences.”

Inspiration from this year’s production came from Footloose, Kenny Loggins’ 1984 hit song from the movie of the same name. Chorus

director, Melody Lowe, explained further, “We introduced the chorus to Footloose, and immediately everyone loved it. It was a winner from the get go.” The chorus members certainly showed their love of the song by delivering a lively and funky version of the hit, showing off their dancing skills to boot!

“funk, factions, and  
infighting – all with an  
a cappella twist”

The story of the show was initially familiar to all our chorus fans. We see GAC on the contest stage, delivering their finely-polished ballad, and then uptune, when disaster strikes! A

beloved member, Beryl, falls from the risers taking several members with her. Some days later, as they find out Beryl is in a coma, the chorus is in mourning, and sing a beautiful rendition of Les Misérables’ Bring Him Home, sung as Bring Her Home. As the chorus then practice Uptown Funk (with very slick dance moves!), the management team decide that excessive choreography was to blame for Beryl’s fall, and things have to change.

The chorus’ loyalties are tested, and eventually the members split into four factions. One of the groups believe that singing should be all about the facial expressions until someone sprains an eyebrow, while another faction delivers One Note Samba with uniform precision.



California Dreaming is the offering from the faction who just want everyone to please get along... But differences eventually lead to collaboration and acceptance, and as Beryl recovers from her trauma, GAC is once again reunited to perform as a whole chorus. The Footloose finale was everything the show had built up to – glitz, glitter, and glam, with a distinct West Side Story feel and energy.

The audience was also thoroughly entertained by a competition-ready performance from the MOLTO! Quartet, giving us a preview of their 70th Sweet Adelines International package.

Gotta Get Out of this Town! cleverly weaved many other popular tunes into the storyline, including Hooked on a Feeling, Don't Stop Me Now, RESPECT, and Come On Get Happy. GAC transported the audience to a

comical and heart-warming behind-the-scenes tale of chorus life – not only the wonderful music, but the bonds of friendship, the laughter, and sometimes tears.

In a poignant note, the programme for the show recorded GAC's dedication of its performance to Janet, doyenne of previous shows and sorely missed chorus member since her passing earlier this year.

Joanna's talent and promise delivered once again, with notable support from her daughter Susannah, a top notch backstage crew and a cast of dedicated chorus members. GAC is keen to continue what is fast becoming their most enjoyable brand of live performance.

**BY JENNIFER CALDWELL**







# Britt-Hel ne Bonnedahl:

## Two-time Sweet Adeline International Champion Chorus Director

In June 2016, Britt-Hel ne Bonnedahl, co-director of R nninge Show Chorus visited Christchurch for coaching with the Christchurch City Chorus, as part of their build up to the 2016 Sweet Adelines International Competition. For Britt-Hel ne and husband Lars, this was their first trip to NZ.

**Why did you agree to come to New Zealand? Given that it is on the otherside of the world to Sweden and a 40 hour flight.**

First of all, I've never been here before. I've been travelling a lot and seen many Sweet Adeline choruses all over the world. I'm always curious to see new places and honest to God, Virginia [Humphrey-Taylor] has been very persistent with her invitations. My husband was very anxious to come with me and I don't travel that far

without him if I have a choice. I know you [Christchurch City Chorus] are a terrific chorus. I am always aspiring to work with good people.

**I've noticed that you've been coaching in England recently. Where else have you been coaching?**

I have coached in Germany, Holland, Netherlands, Finland and Japan.

**How did that [Japan] go?**

They are wonderful. I have three choruses there that I am a mentor for. So it is a lovely relationship - very different and very special. The first time that I was there, I was with my daughter. It was right after she had become a queen again so it was very popular. We had a lot of fun and saw a lot of the country. We stayed one and a half weekends. And then I went back just to work with different choruses.

**You've heard us [Christchurch City Chorus] sing for two days now. What do you think is New Zealand's biggest challenge in the world of Sweet Adelines? For example, getting away from our kiwi accent.**

I'm probably not the right person to judge in that area. Well I have a pretty heavy accent myself; it's not my field of expertise. What I can tell is your challenge is the same challenge as we [R nninge Show Chorus] have and everybody has - to use all the tools that we have, the competence we have, strive for excellence and do it all the time. I don't think that you have any different challenges that other choruses don't have. You probably have a lot of advantages that other choruses don't have. I can feel that most of the people in your chorus are very, very enthusiastic who work really, really, really hard and





are striving for excellence. That is a wonderful atmosphere.

### What is a little known fact about you that not many people know?

What is probably surprising to a lot of people, you might recall pictures of the chorus when we performed our class in Baltimore. All of the chorus had black tops with RSC on them – I painted all those. I love to paint. Several years ago, I was visiting a chorus where they had hand painted logos on their shirts and I thought it was really cool so I learned how to do that and then just accidentally started to do our [RSC] logo a little bit and then we, my husband and I, we worked out we could just take our letters and it was easy to paint. So that is my meditation these days – to paint. Now I paint white and black. We can't have gold this year. Not until [after convention]. That is something nobody really believes when they see the whole chorus – "How do you do it?" "Well Britt-Hélène does it."

### What do you see as some of the biggest challenges for the future of Sweet Adelines?

To keep the balance in between good barbershop, the craft and still be a little bit more contemporary. To attract younger people and to find people who can be creative to move us forward while still having our feet in the craft. I don't especially appreciate what some of the male groups are doing when you can hardly hear that it is barbershop any more. I don't think that is the way

that would be optimal for us but we can't be so square either. We need to develop.

*I think that was a challenge that we [Christchurch City Chorus] found earlier in the year with having Deke Sharon here - he is right there on the edge of contemporary a cappella. That is his field.*

Yes, but he was an eye opener in many ways when I heard what he was teaching also. I mean, why do we do some of the things that we do? When something's so plastic that, we do just by habit.

### So you have reached great heights with RSC. What are your plans and challenges for the future with RSC?

To get further. Not to just be. Nothing makes me more happy, than when we competed for evaluation and the judges say you have developed further. We have been very pleased with our win [in 2013] and very appreciative that we could do that. But the best thing is that we keep on singing as well, instead of just being satisfied and putting on our shoes, we keep on trying.

### So given that, do you think an 800 score is possible? A perfect score?

No, no I don't think so. I have had so many conversations with judges and when the bar is raising and raising and raising and they don't know how they are going to judge it anymore, then they are going to lift the expectations. There will be many more choruses with higher points but I don't think there will be

anyone with 800, no. I don't think so. They will always leave a little space.

*As they should.*

Yes, because no one is perfect.

### What are your strongest memories from when you got that first championship medal?

Since we had visualised everything around the [competition] and we knew we were so good, we were prepared for winning and [receiving] high scores. I thought the chorus had done everything we'd asked for and so that went very smoothly. Then we had everything come in after that with all the expectations that are kind of surprising, that they demand from you, that the organisation demands from you. [We were] doing things that could be a little stressful and then we did the swan-set pretty beautifully. We got a lot of praise for that. Then [there was] this marathon week that started with a concert in Carnegie Hall, we had a show the night after, on Tuesday the swan-set and on Saturday a one and a half hour class. We had to be there [for the class] at 7 o'clock in the morning and we were supposed to demonstrate everything. When David [Wright] demonstrated how he has taught us to sing above the pitch, we sang the intro to "Maybe I'm Old Fashioned", which is a very tricky intro, intonation wise, and the chorus were above the pitch. Then I almost died. "Where are you getting your stamina? Where are you getting this?" It was just pretty darn wonderful. So I do admire my chorus enormously. They are fantastic, they are fantastic. Well it would have





so easy to say that it is Saturday morning after a full week, right now we didn't succeed – but we did.

**What advice do you have for beginners in Sweet Adelines?**

Work hard. Never so hard that you lose the joy in what you are doing. When you lose the joy in singing and produce instead and be good and excellent then so much is gone, so much is gone. It has to be joyful and you have to work with yourself to make it joyful. And it isn't joyful everyday. It is a lot of hard work. But, everything that comes with it! Sometimes I look back on what would I have done if I hadn't been a chorus director and started with barbershop. I would have been a singer that is for sure. I was already a singer. But so many other things in life has been enriched by [it]. I mean, I don't think we would have had the chance to come to NZ for instance if we didn't have a reason or [had] been invited. That is, well, [one of the] many things that comes with it and most of all the joy of singing and the joy of having friends all around the world. That is fantastic.

**You've done a lot of things in your time as a Sweet Adeline, in your time alone as a Sweet Adeline. Is there anything else you want to do that you haven't done? Do you want to direct a men's chorus? What do you want to do that hasn't come to you yet?**

Unfortunately, it is something that is not going to come either. I would very much have loved to be part of a successful quartet. I have sung in a couple of quartets but never on a level that has been really successful. I have never worked on my own voice so that I could be a really good quartet singer. I have mostly been a director. And why not on the front row! And dance on the front row. I think when I was younger that I had a good enough voice for the front row. I used to tease that is my previous life I would have liked to have been a dancer.

It has is nice to see that it has that current through your life. Through your daughter and your granddaughter now. You just need to live vicariously through them.

And I think that we have encouraged them to sing and not specifically barbershop. It just happened to be. It could have been any type of music.

**Last question, what is that favourite thing that you like to cook that everybody loves? Do you cook?**

Yes, I cook. Well, if you ask my grandchildren it's my meatballs. Swedish meatballs with cream sauce. Oh, it is good. Reindeer stew is also good.

**What does reindeer taste like?**

It tastes like very thin meat. Reindeer comes in thin slices. [You] fry it together with onions and mushrooms and [have with a] cream sauce. [You] eat it with rice.

*Since this interview was conducted, Rönninge Show Chorus has become the 2017 International Champion Chorus in October 2016 with a score of 3,098 out of a possible 3,200.*





# Heart Beats of Hawkes Bay

Some wore 'hoodies' and 'hip hopped' around the stage, while others jogged, cycled or shot goals. Others traded their wares of ice cream, cold drinks, balloons and flowers. A couple of buskers serenaded the passers-by. In the crowd strolled the Mayor, a police woman, a 'stop/go' traffic controller and there was even a remarkable buzzy bee! This "Lazy Day" opener set the scene for the exciting presentation of the Sounds of Hawkes Bay Show - "Heart Beats of Hawkes Bay".

Directly following Contest 2015, the Chorus made a decision not to compete in 2016, but would focus instead on learning some new songs and provide their newer members with an opportunity to catch up on existing songs and foster their personal development without the pressure of 'two songs'! The idea of staging a show just grew like Topsy. The Chorus had never embarked on such an ambitious project before, so a committee was quickly set up and the wheels for the journey started rolling.

Early on we were encouraged, guided and coached by the enthusiastic and experienced Lynne Smith. During this time we approached Toni Griffin to be

our MC and mentor, and in doing so she galvanised our ideas into something exciting and entertaining for our audience and also had them spellbound with two stunning songs on the night. As well as this, Virginia Humphrey-Taylor did some tweaking in the lead up to the show - the icing, with sprinkles, were on the cake.

Setting a date and finding a suitable venue became the first challenge, but we eventually settled for October 1st in the Taikura Rudolf Steiner School Auditorium - it was perfect for us. We resolved to sell the 310 seats solely through our chorus members, an achievement we accomplished and are very proud of.

St John was our charity of choice and a percentage of our profits went to this worthy cause. It goes without saying that any surplus funds will go a long way towards getting our gals to Dunedin in 2017.

Several guest artists were invited to participate to complement the planned three acts. Each act highlighted an aspect of the 'Heartbeat' of Hawkes Bay - summer and the family, the internationally acclaimed annual Art Deco celebration, and the strength of a cappella, four-part harmony in the bay.

Over the months the show team met, pondered, dreamed and kept stretching expectations. Every chorus member stepped up to make it happen and family members were appointed to the many job vacancies!

Husband-man-power took the tasks of taking care of props, acted as stage hands, doormen, security, sound and video. While daughters, grand-daughters and loyal friends filled the gaps as ushers, stage crew, dressing assistants and ice cream sellers. In the background, chorus members worked tirelessly each week on the chosen song repertoire for the show, both music and showmanship. Many lost sight of their comfort zone in the process! What we do know is that the positives from this experience will carry forward into the future for our chorus!

Was the Show a success? Judging by the many accolades showered upon us since the big night - the answer is a resounding YES. Will we do it again soon? Ahh - maybe just focus on Dunedin for the time being! But golly gosh - there's no business like show business!

**BY SHIRLEY EDDY**



# Still a member of the world's largest family!

In April 2011 the Addaline Lite had an article about me as an Out of Town Member (OOTM) going to the International convention in Houston. I was then a dual member of Gothia Show Chorus, Sweden and Christchurch City Chorus, New Zealand, and I still am!

I have just returned from a fantastic journey with my New Zealand friends to the Sweet Adeline International Convention in Las Vegas. How is it possible to participate in the international convention with one of the five best choruses in the world when you live on the other side of the world? It's not all about me it's an amazing teamwork and I would like to mention some.

First of all Virginia Humphrey-Taylor and the section leaders believe in us OOTMs - believe that we will and can learn from home. That trust is something that makes us committed, we don't want to be the one not stepping up to the high expectations the top five chorus must have.

The next important thing is the fact that every rehearsal and coaching session is shared on the chorus website for the OOTMs to see. To make this happen is a huge job from dedicated chorus members. It also means some patience from the people around me and I am sure this is true for all the other OOTMs as well. I don't know how many hours I have spent looking into my phone or my computer trying to catch the small changes in the songs and the choreography?

One day I went into the forest to pick blueberries with Kim Vaughn's coaching on the phone. So there I am bent over the blueberry bushes with headphones in my ears and suddenly I got the feeling that someone was standing behind me listening to my humming and singing. I turned around and found a very surprised deer only 10 metres away! I still don't know who got most scared but I will never forget that Kim just then told us to take a big breath after the word, "perfection."

**"How is it possible to participate in the international convention with one of the five best choruses in the world when you live on the other side of the world?"**

Something else that makes this journey possible is the friendly attitude from all the Christchurch based chorus members. Everyone is happy to accept that you may need a friendly push in the right direction now and then; we may have missed a change in the music or the choreo once in awhile.

So I would like to thank everyone who made this possible. It's been a fantastic time from the many hours of rehearsal, the amazingly talented coaches and the concert



in Las Vegas we had together with Rönninge Show Chorus and the fabulous quartets, where I had the honor of being the emcee. The semi finals, the finals and the amazing results and the great medal! But most of all, the friendship and support from all my friends in Region 35! I can't tell you when, but I am sure one day, I will be back to sing with you again!

**BY NINA WIDFELDT  
GOTHIA SHOW CHORUS,  
REGION 32, SWEDEN  
CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS,  
REGION 35, NEW ZEALAND**



# Lacemakers and A Cappella Singers – so alike!

The singers in Lower Hutt's Sweet Adelines barbershop harmony chorus, entered the dining hall at their weekend retreat ready for a well-earned break and some conviviality over lunch. Placards had been placed on the tables and thereby some of the chorus members noted that one of the other groups sharing the retreat facilities, also shared their name "Faultline". Faultline Lacemakers and Faultline Chorus. What a fascinating coincidence. What could be more vastly different than lacemaking and a cappella singing?

## THE LACEMAKERS

Taking intricate patterns and the finest of silky threads, a group of dedicated enthusiasts weave these into ethereal gossamer fabrics that are delicate with light and shade. These are pleasing to the eye as they take their shape and forms. Preparation and understanding of the key elements is crucial and only years of experience can produce perfection. Each stitch has its place; one stitch wrongly placed will throw the whole piece out, affecting all those before it and those to follow. The spaces between each carefully placed stitch are as much a part of the fabric as

the thread that surrounds them. With much patience and love for their craft, with dedication and learned techniques, the Faultline Lacemakers weave fabrics of such great beauty that we marvel at the delicate pieces.

## THE SINGERS

Taking intricate patterns of sound and their physical instruments, a group of dedicated singing enthusiasts come together to create a musical sound of perfectly pitched notes. As the notes take their shapes and forms, they are pleasing to the ear. First the group works on the instrument that produces their own unique sound – their bodies – with an understanding that the correct stance and breath-space aid the perfect placement to produce each note. These sounds can be made to be ethereal and bright, resonant and rich, or dark and velvety as each note is placed next to another and another to create the perfect fabric of light and shade. The breath spaces are as much a part of the sound as the chords that surround them. Blending harmoniously, the notes rise and weave upwards and outwards: the intense softs, the dynamic growth, the ringing chords, and the suspended sighing breaths

that allow light into the spaces between each phrase. With much patience and love for their craft, with dedication and practising of learned techniques, and with some awesome mentoring and coaching, the singers finally hear and feel the chords ringing and resonating in the air around them. They smile and are proud to be a part of such beautifully crafted musicality, and the listeners too smile and marvel at their beautiful singing.

Lunch over with; the dedicated enthusiasts of both groups resumed their endeavours toward perfection in their chosen crafts. For the lacemakers it is mastery of the hand-eye coordinated skill and dexterity of their art. For Faultline Chorus it is mastery of a perfectly sung triplet, a well executed intense soft, a carefully turned diphthong, a resonant dynamic hanger and, ultimately, a chorus which performs in perfect harmony.

**BY LINDY MONRAD  
A LEAD AND PROUD MEMBER  
OF THE FAULTLINE CHORUS,  
LOWER HUTT, REGION 35**

AD



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Sizes: Heel Size 2.75 inch

US9, US7.5, US10.5

Heel Size 2.2 inch

US9 X 2, US10 X 2, US10.5 x 1, US11.5 x 2

Contact Katie Williams: [kateskids@clear.net.nz](mailto:kateskids@clear.net.nz)





# New Zealand participation in the World Choir Games

Tswane, South Africa – July 2018

Virginia Humphrey-Taylor has unwrapped her plans to take a sizeable contingent of He Tangata members, present, past and prospective, to South Africa in 2018 for the World Choir Games. This is HUGE!

The invitation is extended to all SANZ members, some of whom have already indicated their keen interest.

Check out <http://www.interkultur.com/events/world-choir-games/tshwane-2018/>

A must view! After you've read this through, you will appreciate just how much of a biggie this is. As you can see there is a Gospel, a Show and a Barbershop section – we can enter in all of these sections. Virginia is already sourcing material for our performances.

Virginia has had approaches from many men who have wives and partners in SANZ who would be interested in joining us on this epic journey to perform with us in a combined choir and a men's choir. If your men can hold a tune, we'd love them to join us.

We are fortunate to have a professional singer/entertainer (Lynn from Waikato Rivertones husband) who is looking at possible musical ideas and ways to make it happen for those men who wish to participate.

Susan Noseworthy, Christchurch City Chorus, is happy to be the



Co-ordinator of this trip supported by a competent and dedicated team who will be focused on making this happen.

Expressions of interest should in the first instance, go to the He Tangata Communications Coordinator, Jan Toynbee (Sounds of Hawkes Bay) [jan@napierprofessionals.co.nz](mailto:jan@napierprofessionals.co.nz).

A budget will be put together once numbers intending to travel and compete are gathered for those non He Tangata members to cover all costs such as music purchase, learning tracks purchase, rehearsal venue hire, Virginia's teaching time, travel and accommodation. Then of course the option is there to become a financial member of He Tangata and pay the annual membership fee of just \$130. Robin Ransom from Wellington on [macran@paradise.net.nz](mailto:macran@paradise.net.nz) will assist you there.

Most rehearsals for He Tangata are in Wellington because it is central for most He Tangata members. Virginia anticipates at least two centrally

based 'combined' choir rehearsals, leaving the men singers to work from their own NZ centre hubs, eg Auckland/Hamilton, Central NZ, i.e. Palm Nth/Wellington /Taranaki/Hawkes Bay and Christchurch/South Island area, as an example.

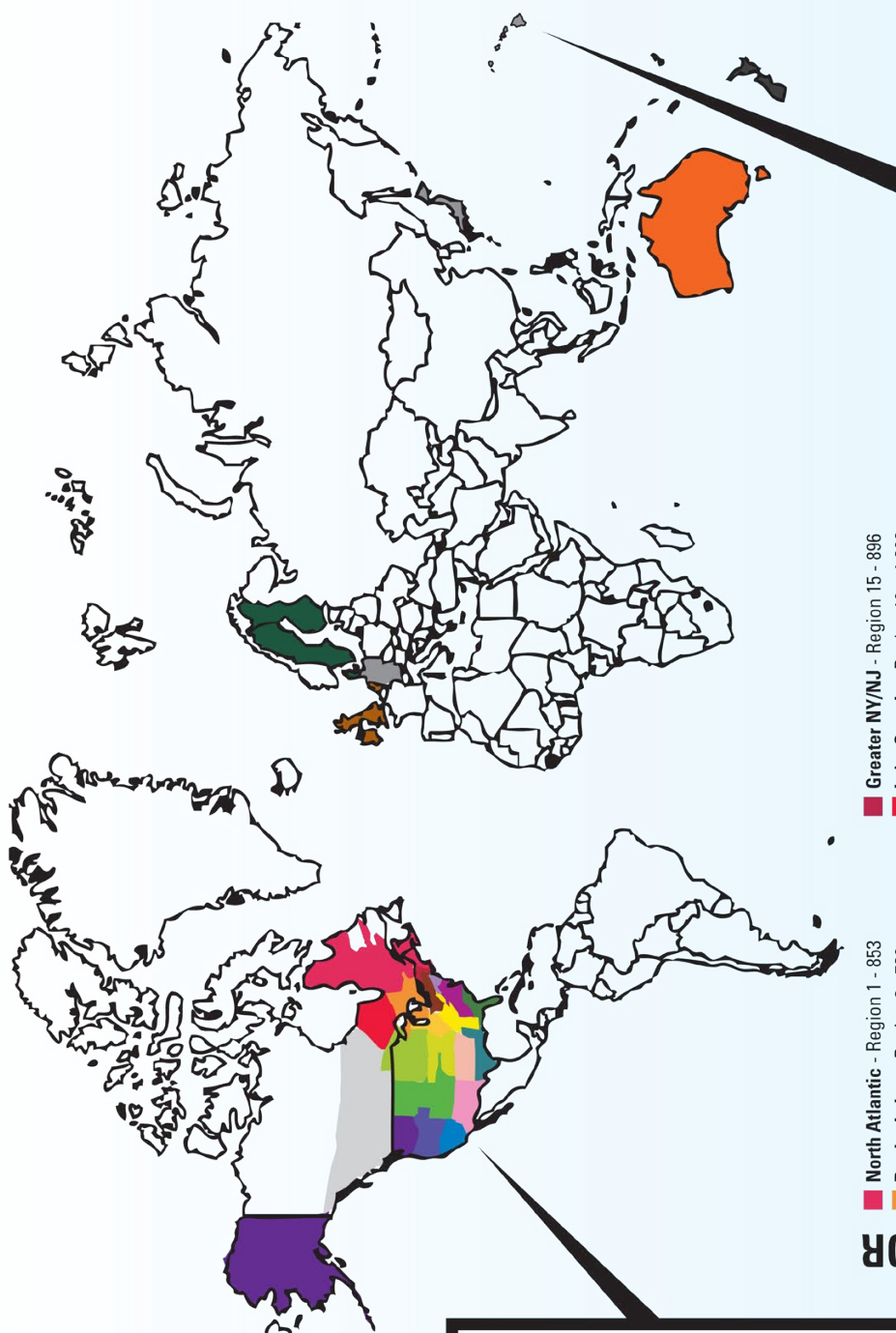
Virginia has been presented with a gorgeous costume idea, which is a perfect way to represent our beautiful New Zealand. This will be shared at a later date.

Kate Veeder is already at her computer planning a follow-on tour. For most of us this will be the trip of a lifetime. Another tick for that 'bucket list!'

**BY JAN TOYNBEE  
COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR  
HE TANGATA**

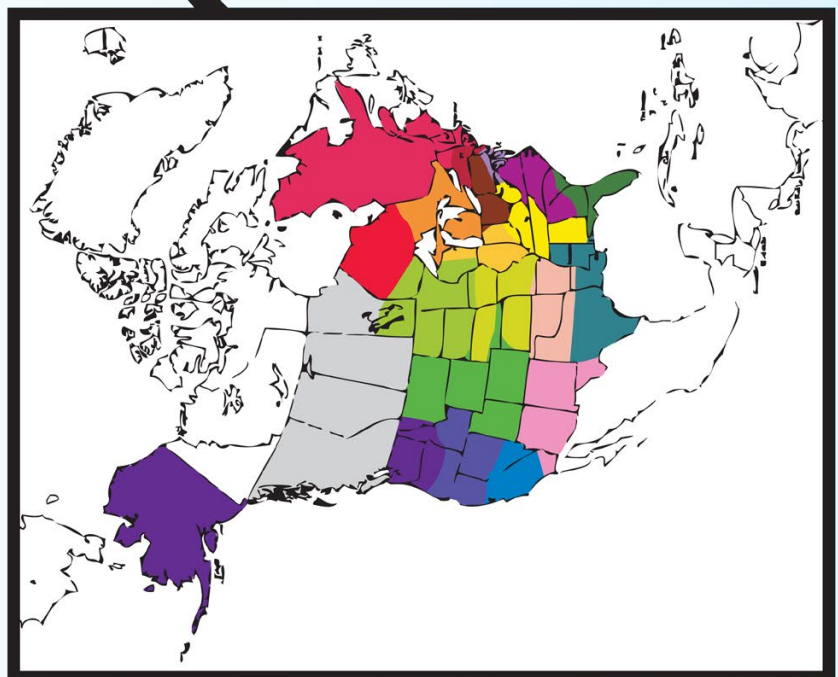


# REGIONS



- Greater NV/NJ - Region 15 - 896
- Lake Ontario - Region 16 - 1,099
- Great Lakes Harmony - Region 17 - 846
- Atlantic Bay-Mountain - Region 19 - 996
- Golden West - Region 21 - 789
- Heart of America - Region 25 - 993
- Canadian Maple Leaf - Region 26 - 893
- Satellite Area - Region 30 - 80
- Quartet of Nations - Region 31 - 1,309
- Nordic Light - Region 32 - 901
- Southern Cross - Region 34 - 1,315
- New Zealand - Region 35 - 691

- REGIONS BY COLOR**
- North Atlantic - Region 1 - 853
  - Border Lakes - Region 2 - 739
  - Midwest Harmony - Region 3 - 883
  - Harmony Heartland - Region 4 - 1,126
  - Spirit of the Midwest - Region 5 - 884
  - Northern Lights - Region 6 - 749
  - Rocky Mountain - Region 8 - 792
  - Atlantic-Gulf - Region 9 - 973
  - Great Gulf Coast - Region 10 - 714
  - Sequoia Pacifica - Region 11 - 679
  - Pacific Shores - Region 12 - 967
  - North Pacific - Region 13 - 1,033
  - Heart of the Blue Ridge - Region 14 - 1,020



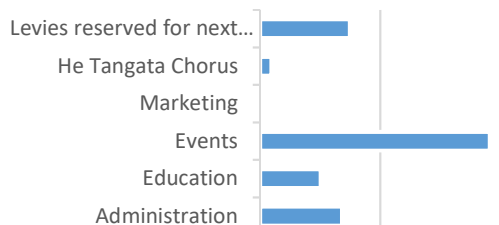




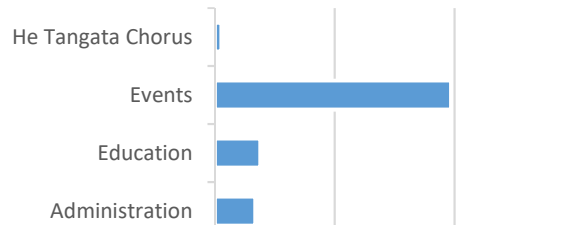
**New Zealand Sweet Adelines International Region 35 Inc**  
**Summarised Income and Expenses for Ten months**  
**from 1 January to 31 October 2016**

	Income	Expense	Net
Administration	\$27,155	\$16,885	\$10,270
Education	\$20,058	\$18,941	\$1,117
Events	\$76,353	\$98,477	-\$22,124
Marketing	\$559	\$0	\$559
He Tangata Chorus	\$3,698	\$2,788	\$910
Levies reserved for next years convention	\$29,843	\$0	\$29,843
<b>Total Income and Expense</b>	<b>\$157,666</b>	<b>\$137,091</b>	<b>\$20,575</b>

**Income 10 months 1 January  
to 31 October 2016**



**Expense 10 months 1 January to  
31 October 2016**



**Balance Sheet as at 31 October 2016**

**Current Assets**

BNZ - SAINZ Administration	\$34,708
BNZ - He Tangata	\$9,112
BNZ - Prue Blythe Memorial Fund	\$3,867
Prepayments	\$2,768
Accounts Receivable	\$6,953
Stock on Hand	\$7,242
Cash on hand	\$0

**Total Current Assets** \$64,650

**Fixed Assets**

Net Fixed Assets \$285

**TOTAL ASSETS** \$64,935

**Liabilities**

Accounts payable	\$41
GST	-\$3,268

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** -\$3,227

**Net Assets** \$68,162

**Equity**

Reserves - He Tangata Chorus	\$6,047
Reserves - PBM (YIWH) Fund	\$3,867
Other Reserves	-\$35,613
Current year earnings	\$20,575
Retained Earnings	\$73,286

**TOTAL EQUITY** \$68,162

The Convention figures above do not reflect the true outcome because last years convention levies are in last years reported balances. Our final balance for convention was a small loss of \$244.

Over the past few months, queries from chorus treasurers have included how to manage members payments, how to apply for Grants, advice re software, dealing with IRD.

Chorus Treasurers - If you have anything you need help with, let me know. Likewise anything that is working for you, please share. I always welcome questions and if I don't know the answer, I will try to find out for you. Remember to allow for increased levies next year.

Please consider attending the Leaders workshop in February, whether you are currently on a management team or may be shoulder-tapped to do your part in the near future.

*Stella Nicholson*  
Financial coordinator





# NZ CHAPTER CONTACTS

## BELLA A CAPPELLA CHORUS

Director: Patti Cooke  
TC: Kate Syddall  
kate.bella@outlook.com  
Meets: Thursdays 6.30pm  
The Pavilion, Cobham Road Domain,  
Kerikeri. Ph 09 403 8385 / 022 696 6920  
www.bellaacappellanz.com

## CAPITAL HARMONY CHORUS

Directors: Joanne Oliver & Mary Sagato  
TC: Robin Ransom  
macran@paradise.net.nz  
Meets: Mondays 7.30pm  
Churton Park School Hall, Wellington  
Ph 021 141 2242 / 04 972 0041  
www.capitalharmony.org.nz

## CHRISTCHURCH CITY CHORUS

Director: Virginia Humphrey-Taylor  
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

Director: Robyn Abernethy  
TC: Tracy Pettinger  
pettal@clear.net.nz  
Meets: Tuesdays 7.30pm  
Andersons Bay Bowling Club  
Bayfield Road, Dunedin  
Ph 03 552 0982  
www.dunedinharmony.webs.com

## FAULTLINE CHORUS

Director: Carolyn Currington  
TC: Jacquie Binnie  
jiffyscout288@gmail.com  
Meets: Wednesdays 7.30pm  
Salvation Army Crossroads  
Cnr High/Cuba Sts, Petone, Wellington  
Ph 04 479 0483 / 021 552 583  
www.faultline.org.nz

## FOVEAUX HARMONY CHORUS

Director: Sarah Rae  
TC: Trish Douglas  
fhcmanage2012@gmail.com  
Meets: Thursdays 7.00pm  
U.F.S Hall 76 Tay St, Invercargill  
Ph 03 217 6483 / 021 130 3720  
www.foveauxharmony.co.nz

## GREATER AUCKLAND CHORUS

Directors: Melody Lowe & Jocosa Bruce  
TC: Jennifer Caldwell  
jcaldwell@xtra.co.nz  
Meets: Tuesdays 7.15pm  
Balmoral Bowling Club  
Mont Le Grand Ave, Mt Eden, Auckland  
Ph 021 624 162  
www.greateraucklandchorus.com

## MANAWATU OVERTONES CHORUS

Directors: Sylvia Fountain & Liz Watts  
TC: Faye Roberts  
robfam@inspire.net.nz  
Meets: Tuesdays 7pm  
Milson Combined Church  
Cnr Milson Line/Purdie St  
Palmerston North  
Ph 06 354 1258 / 021 263 4809  
www.facebook.com/ManawatuOvertones

## NELSON BAYS HARMONY CHORUS

Directors: Janet Rowland & Kathy Jamieson  
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

Director: Lana Morgan  
TC: Nancy Jensen  
nanrick@xtra.co.nz  
Meets: Mondays 7.15pm  
Clive School, 57 School Road, Clive  
Ph 06 877 9705 / 021 720 370  
www.soundsofhawkesbaychorus.co.nz

## SOUTHCITY SOUNDZ CHORUS

Director: Sheryl Willis & Cheryl Weijermars  
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

Director: Gill Holmes  
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

Directors: Kate Sinclair & Lynn Jamieson  
TC: Melina Perry  
singandbling@xtra.co.nz  
Meets: Mondays 7pm  
Marian School Hall  
Clyde Street, Hamilton  
Ph 027 421 1583  
www.waikatorivertones.com

## WELLINGTON CITY CHORUS

Directors: David Brooks  
& Henrietta Hunkin-Tagaloa  
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

Director: Kim Cairns  
TC: Luzia Bohles / Chorus Contact: Mary  
preswhc@gmail.com  
Meets: Mondays 6.30pm  
Ph 09 437 7456 / 027 408 7917 (Mary)  
www.whangareiharmony.org.nz

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