



MINUTES OF RMT MEETING (in-person)

DATE: 31 Jan -2 Feb 2026

LOCATION: Waihi Beach (RMT TC home)

ATTENDEES:

Julie Earl - Team Coordinator

Leigh Agnew - Finance Coordinator

Carolyn Currington - Directors Coordinator

Nikola Worrall-Bader - Membership Coordinator

Shelley Bascand – Events Coordinator

Shelley Phillips – Marketing

Leanne Wheeler – Education

Regional Management Team Update: January 2026

The Regional Management Team met in person over the weekend of 31 January 2026 to review progress, plan priorities for the year, and discuss ways to support choruses and members across the region. Along with attending to various operational matters.

Key Strategic Priorities included;

- Exploring the provision of regional “Learn to Sing Harmony” resources to support chorus growth.
- Planning a contestable \$2,000 fund for secondary schools to become Sweet Adelines Affiliate choruses. [Youth Affiliate Chorus Pilot Program | Sweet Adelines](#)
- Continuing investment in marketing support, sponsored advertising, and chorus health checks.
- Considering opportunities for growth in regions which have shown interest through the February Open Month

Inclusion & Membership

- A small working group is progressing D&I (Diversity & Inclusion) resources and language guidance.
- Membership currently sits at 476 members with more potential members in the pipeline. CAL membership has grown with the dissolution of Bella and Whangarei. Fiona Brodie CAL coordinator works with Membership Coordinator Nikola Worrall-Bader to keep these members in touch
- A new “Friends of SANZ” initiative has been developed to continue to engage previous members as SANZ supporters. It’s an opportunity for those who have been members to stay in touch with Regional news.

Education & Youth

- Coaching visits and quartet workshops are scheduled around the region (Glenda Lloyd Nelson and Auckland, Bec Hewitt country-wide August 2026)
- A proposed Young Singers boot camp is being explored in conjunction with EDC and Kim Miller Youth upper voices (YWIH)
- Education scholarship available annually and funding will increase to \$5,000. To advertise Feb 2026 for 2026 year.
- Youth regional competition opportunities will continue to be promoted with funding support

Events & Convention

- Convention registrations underway Humanitix booking platform to be used. Small booking fee 50:50 split with members and region
- Fundraising options (including Vocalzone) to be explored again
- Planning has begun for possible 2027 convention venues.

Marketing & Communications

- The Open Month website and targeted ads are live to support recruitment. Evaluation to be completed in March
- Website redevelopment is planned after Convention 2026. Shift to HarmonySite – no cost to the region
- Choruses are encouraged to use Facebook job-alike groups to share ideas.

Operations & Governance

- Policies updates in progress include:
 - Travel policy
 - STAR chorus
 - Funding requirements for international non-attendance
 - Ongoing work to improve file storage systems.

Other Updates

- 15 quartets are currently registered with Sweet Adelines International.
- We thanked Katie Mathison for her (almost two-year service in the Communications role. A vacancy for a Communications role will be advertised – immediate start. Along with a Resource role in social media.

Next Meeting

5 March 2026 (via Zoom)