

NOTES

APRIL
2023

The Newsletter of **THE ROYAL SCHOOL OF CHURCH MUSIC - WAIKATO BRANCH**

From the Chair -

AGM Report 21st May 2023

Chair: David Brookes

This has been a busy and fruitful year – here are some highlights.

AGM 21st May at All Saints Church Hall, Matamata, preceded by Workshop – Singing the Psalms. Different styles of singing psalms were explained and sung. There was a good attendance and keen participation, which included some people from local Matamata churches which made for a good promotion of church music.

Refreshments followed with fellowship, meeting friends and new people.

AGM: Reports of past activities, election of officers and committee and information/promotion of future activities.

RSCM Music Sunday – 21st June.

Choral Evensong @ St Luke's Church, Rotorua. A choir of 35, including several local choristers, conducted by Elizabeth Pilaar and David Brookes. Organist Helda Bester provided excellent accompaniment on the Baroque pipe organ and a splendid Postlude. Excellent strong singing of all music with the Vicar providing a stirring cornet accompaniment in the last verse of one hymn. Lavish refreshments and fellowship were enjoyed by choristers and congregation. A report and photos of this service was included in the RSCM Quarterly News.

Choral Evensong at St Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton – 9th July.

Choir of 40, including Cathedral choristers and choirs from around the Waikato conducted by Rachael Griffiths-Hughes, organist Anne Cleaver Holm. The service included newly composed music – an introit by Ed Marsh (UK). Strong enthusiastic singing of traditional settings of the responses, psalm, canticles, and hymns. A wonderful rendition of the anthem 'Evening Hymn' by H Balfour Gardiner and a stimulating sermon from our Branch Chaplain.

Personal.

Presentation of the ARSCM awarded to me by Paul Ellis (President RSCMNZ) and the opportunity to play the final hymn and Postlude on the Cathedral organ. Attendance at the service of my family and friends.

Refreshments and fellowship after the service. This gave me the opportunity to speak and promote the work of the RSCM.

All Souls Services to commemorate the departed. 2nd and 8th November at All Saints, Matamata and St Andrew's Cambridge.

Several RSCM choristers joined with All Saints Choir, Matamata and the Venite Choir, St Andrew's Cambridge to provide

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anthems, Taizé chants and hymns for services of remembrance of passed loved ones. I was organist for both services and Ceri Parr conducted the choir at St Andrew's. Both of these services gave RSCM choristers the opportunity to join with parish church choirs to provide choral music for special services of worship and also the opportunity to work with the Vicar of both parishes. Refreshments followed each service.

RSCM Festival of Church Music.

Venue: St Andrew's Church and Hall, Cambridge. Co-directed by Paul Ellis (President RSCMNZ) and Neil Shroff (Chair RSCM, Auckland). Organists and accompanists – David Brookes and Stephen Hamilton.

Thirty-five enthusiastic choristers from far and wide attended, including 9 from New Plymouth, 2 from Christchurch and 2 from Levin. Rehearsals were held on Friday evening and Saturday for the Sunday morning Parish Eucharist and Sunday afternoon Ecumenical Service, both led by Rev Jennie Savage – Vicar of St Andrew's. A formal dinner was held on Saturday evening, with a very interesting after dinner speech by Rachael Griffiths-Hughes.

Highlights:

- ◆ Excellent leadership from two very experienced church musicians.
- ◆ Singing with choristers from far and wide and forming a very well-balanced choir.
- ◆ Learning recently composed new music, including three anthems and a setting of Psalm 23.
- ◆ Singing The Lord's Prayer in Teo Maori, with guitar accompaniment.
- ◆ Enjoying fellowship, food, and an inspiring speech at the formal dinner, plus a violin/piano duet.
- ◆ Refreshments and fellowship during the whole weekend, meeting new people and 'old' friends.
- ◆ Working with the Vicar – Rev Jennie Savage to present music for the Parish Eucharist, the Ecumenical service and providing good liaison for the future.
- ◆ Making new contacts with churches – such as an invitation to sing Choral Evensong in September at St John's Church, Waihi.

All Saints Church, Matamata. Wednesday 5th April, (Holy Week) Tenebrae Service.

Although not strictly a Waikato RSCM activity, choristers affiliated to the RSCM participated in this service of hymns, Taizé chants and anthems. Three choristers from local community choirs participated with great enthusiasm and helped produce a well-balanced 4 part choir for the service. The choir was led by the organ/organist after only three previous intense rehearsals. This also gave us the opportunity to communicate RSCM activities to local community choirs.

Conclusion:

All these activities over the past year would not have been possible without the enthusiasm and support of our Branch Secretary and Treasurer, Committee and Chaplain. They have met as a group many times during the year and used their many talents to organise our activities. A huge vote of thanks must be given to Merv Hunt, who organised the festival of church music in January and made sure all aspects of the weekend ran smoothly, as well as being our Branch Secretary/Treasurer.

Our thanks also must extend to the editor of our branch newsletter 'Notes', Jill Brookes who several times during the year produced a newsletter which included a message from the Chair, reports and photos of recent activities and details of future activities. This newsletter promoted church music and contacted many churches and choristers, including Napier and New Plymouth as well as through the RSCMNZ website to all New Zealand branches.

Finally, I must thank all who have supported me to promote church music during my 4-year term as Chair of the Waikato Branch of the RSCM.

David Brookes



RSCM NZ - Waikato Branch

Annual General Meeting - Sunday, 21st May, 2023 at 2.00pm

St Matthew's Church, Morrinsville

Beginning at 2.00pm with a 'Tribute to Colin Gibson' presented by Venerable Val Riches, accompanists; Selda Blazey and David Brookes. Refreshments at 2.45pm, and then our AGM at 3.00pm. Please bring a plate.

AGM AGENDA

Members & Friends Present:

Apologies:

Minutes of the 2022 AGM:

Matters Arising:

Reports:

Chairperson – David Brookes

Treasurer – Merv Hunt

Correspondence:

Election of Officers:

Chair

Secretary

Treasurer

Committee Members

General Business:

Guyon Wells RSCM Fellowship report

Appointment of Auditor

Appointment of Chaplain - Venerable Andrew Evans

Events planned for the 2023 -24 year

Any Other General Business

Appreciation to St Matthew's Church

Meeting closes.

Annual General Meeting Nomination forms



Nomination Form for Chairperson 2023 - 27

Name of person being nominated:

Nominated by:

Seconded by:

I accept this nomination:

(Nominee please sign)



Nomination Form for Secretary 2023 - 24

Name of person being nominated:

Nominated by:

Seconded by:

I accept this nomination:

(Nominee please sign)



Nomination Form for Treasurer 2023 - 24

Name of person being nominated:

Nominated by:

Seconded by:

I accept this nomination:

(Nominee please sign)



Nomination Form for Committee Member 2023 - 24

Name of person being nominated:

Nominated by:

Seconded by:

I accept this nomination:

(Nominee please sign)



NZ Organ Association

The Waikato Festival 2023.

2nd - 5th June.

Saturday 3rd June. 9.30 - 10.30am. 10.50am - noon.

Demonstration/recital of the pipe organ in Morrinsville Methodist church by John Dodgshun, and the digital organ in St Matthew's church Morrinsville by David Brookes.

There is no charge to attend. Come and enjoy listening to music on these two organs.

10.30 - 10.50am. Morning tea will be available in the Methodist Church Centre. Please bring a plate.

Public concerts.

Saturday 3rd June. 2.00pm. St Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton.

Festival Organ Concert - Thomas Wilson - former D.O.M St Mary's Cathedral, Sydney.

Works by Buxtehude, J.S. Bach, Walton, Douglas C. Mews, Mozart and Dupre.

Admission by programme at the door \$30 & \$20.

Sunday 4th June. 2.30pm. St Andrew's Church, Cambridge.

'Organ Fantasies' - Douglas Mews - Wellington City Organist.

Works by J.S. Bach, Franck, Ketèlbey and transcriptions of works by Grieg and Bizet.

Admission by programme at the door \$20 & \$15.

Sunday 4th June. Choral Evensong. 5.00pm St Andrew's church, Cambridge.

Festival choir with RSCM Waikato choristers. Director -Thomas Wilson. Organist - Joshua Anderson.

Music: Ferial Responses. Psalm 150 (Stanford.) Canticles - Stanford in C.

Anthem: Exultate Justi - Viadana.

Choir Rehearsal's.

Sunday 28th May. 3.00pm St Andrew's Church, Cambridge

and /or

Friday 2nd June. 8.30pm St Andrew's church, Te Aroha Street, Hamilton.

Compulsory

Sunday 4th June. 4.00pm St Andrews Church, Cambridge.

Choristers are invited to participate in this Festive Choral Evensong.

Please contact David Brookes - dave.brookes273@gmail.com to register, state voice part (SATB) and request the music **by 23rd May.** Extra rehearsals may be organised at All Saints church Matamata.



2023 ACTIVITIES

WORKSHOP : Faure Requiem 2.00pm

Sunday 9th July - St Peter's Cathedral, Hamilton

Directed by Rachael Griffiths-Hughes

Accompanist Anne Cleaver Holm

Please bring a plate for refreshments.

SUNDAY 17th September : Choral Evensong, St John's Church, Waihi

Rehearsal - 2.30pm

Service - 4.30pm

Conductor - to be announced

Organist - Helda Bester

Please bring choir robes and a plate for refreshments.

Wednesday 1st November - All Souls : Service of Remembrance

All Saints Church, Matamata

Time - to be announced and further details to follow.

2024 Visit of RSCM Director, Hugh Morris to New Zealand

February, Waikato area

Further details at our AGM

FOR SALE

Grand piano - Broadwood, London, \$4000.00

Contact David Brookes - dave.brookes273@gmail.com

OFFICERS

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RSCM (NZ) Website - <http://www.rscm.org.nz>

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