

MINUTES of the Annual General Meeting of the Committee of Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc held on Thursday 25th April 2024



Present:- Hugh Collins, Irene McGinnigle, Judith Trimble, Jan Lavelle, William Ness, Simon Holberton, Rebecca Cowled, Tim Rowley, Kerryn Holberton, Peter McDonald

Apologies received and proxies provided:- David Fox.

1. Minutes of the 2023 Annual General Meeting had been previously distributed via email and were approved as correct. Moved: I. McGinnigle. Seconded: J. Trimble. Carried.
2. President's Annual Report, prepared by D. Fox as Vice-President, is attached to these minutes. The President's Report was received.
3. Treasurer's presentation of Financial Statements. Jan Lavelle presented the Financial Report, attached to these minutes, noting a loss of over \$9,000. Moved: J. Lavelle. Seconded: W. Ness. Carried.
4. Election of Office-Bearers and Committee members for 2024-2-25.

Election of Office Bearers:

- President: Hugh Collins, nominated by I. McGinnigle, seconded by S. Holberton
- Vice-President: David Fox, nominated by W. Ness, seconded by P. McDonald
- Secretary: Irene McGinnigle, nominated by H. Collins, seconded by J. Trimble
- Treasurer: Peter McDonald, nominated by H. Collins, seconded by I. McGinnigle

As there were no contested nominations, H. Collins declared the nominated Office Bearers elected.

- Judith Trimble, nominated by R. Cowled, seconded by S. Holberton.
- William Ness, nominated by D. Fox, seconded by J. Trimble.
- Simon Holberton, nominated by P. McDonald, seconded by R. Cowled.
- Rebecca Cowled, nominated by S. Holberton, seconded by P. McDonald

There being no further nominations, the above named people were elected to the Committee.

5. Fixing the annual Membership Fee. **Resolved that the annual membership fee remain at \$20.** Moved: W. Ness. Seconded: P. McDonald. Carried.
6. Consumer Affairs Victoria Revised Model Rules. I. McGinnigle explained about the updated Model Rules which came into effect on 18th November 2023 and required adoption. **Motion: that the Geelong Chamber Music Society adopts the model rules as revised 18 November 2023.** Carried.

7. General Business. On behalf of the Committee, H. Collins thanked Jan for her years on the committee, particularly introduction of performer contracts, her work to develop policies to continue performances during the Covid pandemic, and latterly her work as Treasurer. Her resignation was accepted with regret.

Meeting closed at 8.20



PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2023

The five concerts presented in 2023 were each a success, enjoyed by audiences, even if those audience numbers were still a bit low. It seems recovery from the COVID years is still in progress.

The Melbourne Chamber Orchestra under direction from Sophie Rowell presented a very eclectic program ranging from Bach to a jazz inspired piece by Perkinson, a contemporary American composer. A highlight of the program was a lesser known Mozart piece, Adagio and Fugue in C minor, which prompted Sophie to comment "It's hard to believe it's Mozart". This wonderful ensemble has performed every year since the GCMS began.

The next concert presented something quite different, a harp and flute duo featuring Marshall McGuire and Paula Rae. Our audience was charmed by the combination of these two instruments in a relaxed and very entertaining recital. Performing a selection of solo instrumentals, arrangements for flute and harp and pieces written for the combination, Marshall and Paula demonstrated the diverse music suited to this combination.

Flinders Quartet made their second appearance for GCMS proving why they are at the top of the ensemble ladder in Australia. An iconic quartet by Dvořák was coupled with more modern pieces, all illustrating this ensemble's mastery of the form.

Sophie Rowell appeared again in concert number four, along with pianist Timothy Young; both are lecturers at the Australian National Academy of Music. ANAM students presented a mostly modern program including contemporary pieces from Russia and Poland and a more approachable quartet by Janáček. Directed by Sophie and Timothy, ANAM students always present interesting combinations of instruments and works not usually heard.

The year concluded with a recital from eminent pianist Ian Munro, who delighted the committee by asking "what would you like me to play"! Ian gathered our suggestions and presented a very generous program of well known classical and romantic masterpieces. A highlight was his performance of the seldom heard Valse Nobles et Sentimentales by Ravel. Equally well known in Australia and overseas, Ian engaged the audience with his relaxing chat while presenting the very epitome of a piano recital.

2023 saw audience number climb a little after COVID but maybe not as much as we wished. Living costs in the second half of the year began to spiral to a point where many people had a second thought when it came to purchasing concert tickets. Add to this, our ageing audience often choose not to drive at night, especially in winter and young people don't appear to be filling the gaps. We can only hope for a better 2024.

2023 also saw major changes in the GCMS Committee, with the resignation of Anne, Hugh had resigned as President the year before. New recruits were found in Peter, Simon, Will and Rebecca.

The GCMS remains positive and committed to providing Geelong with very high quality chamber music and hopes 2024 will prove to be a great year. Donations are always gladly received and as we were unsuccessful in our grant applications to Arts Victoria and the City of Great Geelong, help from our audience is even more valuable.

David Fox - Acting President.



TREASURER'S REPORT 2023

The 2023 year was quite a difficult one financially for the Geelong Chamber Music Society. It was possibly the first year in the history of the GCMS in which no grants were received at all. The COGG grants, which have been a regular income source, have changed their criteria for selection and the GCMS no longer seems to fit their requirements. Donations have also dropped from approximately \$2500 in 2021 and 2022 to only about \$1000 in 2023. This gave us an overall drop in income of over \$7000. This has not been offset by a rise in ticket sales, as audience numbers have not really picked up substantially since the COVID drop and have stayed considerably lower than pre-COVID numbers.

Our artist performance fees were lower in 2023 than 2022 by about \$4000, which kept our losses down somewhat. However, the loss for the 2023 year was over \$9000. This is a similar figure to 2022, which was our first year back after the COVID. An annual loss of this magnitude in the long term is not sustainable. Rising costs for advertising, venue hire, insurance etc are also a concern.

During 2023 the GCMS applied for, and was recently awarded, a Robert Salzer grant of \$6000. This has relieved some of the pressure on our finances, meaning no immediate action needs to be taken regarding additional sources of income. If this grant becomes an ongoing annual source of income, pressure for options such as increased ticket prices or donations would be relieved at least in part. The 2024 program is also a very attractive one and will hopefully increase our ticket sales income.

Janet Lavelle
Treasurer

Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc

Balance Sheet

Basis: Accrual

Account	Account Code	31/12/2022 Total	31/12/2023 Total
Assets			
Current Assets			
Cash			
Undeposited Funds		0.00	145.00
Total for Cash		0.00	145.00
Bank			
Bendigo Card Acc	682	459.68	503.59
Bendigo Donations	681	15,962.73	16,352.70
Bendigo Term Deposit 1	684	13,537.25	13,683.91
Bendigo Term Deposit 2	685	12,960.68	13,241.71
Bendigo Term Deposit 3	686	12,339.35	12,473.04
Bendigo Trading Acc	680	33,201.61	18,615.39
Pay Pal		18.98	0.00
Trybooking		2,453.37	5,385.99
Total for Bank		90,933.65	80,256.33
Total for Current Assets		90,933.65	80,401.33
Total for Assets		90,933.65	80,401.33
Liabilities & Equities			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Contingent Liability- 2020 ticket refunds unclaimed		4,880.00	4,880.00
Ticket Sales - 2023 Season		6,952.61	0.00

Account	Account Code	31/12/2022	31/12/2023
		Total	Total
Ticket Sales - 2024 Season		0.00	5,540.00
Total for Current Liabilities		11,832.61	10,420.00
Total for Liabilities		11,832.61	10,420.00
Equities			
Current Year Earnings		-9,531.62	-9,119.71
Retained Earnings		88,632.66	79,101.04
Total for Equities		79,101.04	69,981.33
Total for Liabilities & Equities		90,933.65	80,401.33

**Amount is displayed in your base currency AUD

Geelong Chamber Music Society Inc

Profit and Loss

Basis: Accrual

From 01/01/2023 To 31/12/2023

Account	Account Code	Total
Operating Income		
Donation Income		1,050.00
Interest Income		561.38
Membership Income		320.00
Other Charges		1.00
Ticket Sales		22,106.33
Total for Operating Income		24,038.71
Cost of Goods Sold		
Total for Cost of Goods Sold		0.00
Gross Profit		24,038.71
Operating Expense		
Advertising & Marketing		1,363.50
APRA		165.00
Bank Fees and Charges		139.74
Booking fee		565.00
Catering		35.73
Insurance		990.00
IT and Internet Expenses		1,594.02
Liquor Licence		159.30
Performance Fees		20,921.00
Piano Tuning		550.00
Postage		14.40
Printing and Stationery		1,273.85
RAV Membership		275.00
Travel Expense		4.88
Venue Hire		5,107.00

Account	Account Code	Total
Total for Operating Expense		33,158.42
Operating Profit		-9,119.71
Non Operating Income		
Total for Non Operating Income		0.00
Non Operating Expense		
Total for Non Operating Expense		0.00
Net Profit/Loss		-9,119.71

**Amount is displayed in your base currency AUD