

President's report – for AGM @ music'09 (Stephanie Lees)

Kia ora Koutou –a summary of the Board's 'doings' this last year...(or at least those I can remember!)

- **Sound Arts** - the biggest expense for the organisation and along with the web site our greatest advocacy tool - in the time I have been on the board we have surveyed the membership as to its relevance and importance, preferred form, (ie electronic or paper), reduced the annual cost substantially, added colour, increased editorial content ... added content (community, music therapy). It's a "work in progress" always but we are very pleased with some of the improvements so far. We want greater print runs (at same cost) and more copies to institutional members and out there in the community.
- **The WEBSITE** – an excellent new look created by Adele Voice, who continues to keep this current and up to date for us all ... (many thanks Adele) – Adele is leaving the board but happily for us will continue for some time in this highly supportive role. We are all very grateful and extend formal thanks for her time and skill!
- The "**Cognition contract**" – we subcontract to Karen Carter, who is making a fine job of it on very limited hours and \$– she updates us all personally as well as music and primary nets.
- **Participation in national standards review, curriculum alignment etc** –Margaret Williams has worked closely to consult the membership where she has been able (allowed) and with her team made great progress given the parameters. Other subject associations have experienced great difficulty with their MOE contracts regarding this exercise and we are in close contact with others thanks to the PPTA.
- PPTA liaison = **Subject Assoc'n** contacts at Secondary level... 2 years running we have attended these informative sessions - represented by CHRIS, Celia, Maria , Myself and others like Jill Owen (Upper Hutt Coll). It's very useful to learn how the other 29 subject associations operate, what their membership is etc. MENZA has relatively healthy numbers and is probably the most cross-sector association of any (which leads to both benefits and challenges for us all).
- **ITV-ITM issues – the symposiums of 08** – with PPTA funding we were able to bring teachers together in Auckland and Wellington – thanks to Stephen Rowe for his on-going work in this area.
- **TRCC** – we applied for and have secured funding for 2010/11 TRCC course/conference ... this is a great PD opportunity 'between conference years' for us if taken on 2010 or it may allow 'out of towners' to get to the 2011 conference... we are working on the proposal with the TRCC currently.
- **Revitalisation of the Auckland region** – "local" workshops pulling in NZ wide participation – Auckland and Wellington branches have ceased to make a distinction between being an LCP /regional and national MENZA and this is working well for them. The Auckland branch finds that teachers come from all over the country to their PD opportunities. Auckland has been successful in securing QTP funding several times on the last few years. We encourage other LCPs to 'go for it'!
- **KKS songs 15 and 16 national 'tours'** - highly successful and being repeated here at conference for the benefit of those who were unable to attend. Many thanks to Maria Winder for her tireless work with these. We are thrilled with the in-roads into Northland in particular – an area of great need – note the Kura section in the latest SA where they incidentally refer back to ukulele workshops from the previous year. The next planned tour

will be in 2010 most probably around “values”. (We have been very disappointed with Learning Media ‘s lack of financial support).

- The challenge for our organisation (cf to other subjects associations) –is that we have many music sectors – but this can also be seen as our strength! It is holistic– working together from EC to Tertiary encompassing “many spaces”, community and a diversity of participants.
- Our Membership – stands at 350 financial members – the challenge for all of us – to recruit more and **younger** members. In addition I would like to see further links to the RPOs also. We have recently surveyed members and I will address those findings separately to this report (in the e newsletter for those not attending this AGM)

It has been a fantastic conference here in Christchurch – the quality of the workshops, the overseas speakers, the choice, the food, the music and the company – many congratulations to the MEC team and many thanks for all their hard work.

Being on the MENZA Board is not always what I would wish for my limited free time (and I have been aware that I have not enough time in my life to do this job as I would wish – I am looking for my successor!) but I’d like to thank and acknowledge my fellow Board members now, very much for their friendship, good humour and their support of my efforts and especially for the time they put in for us all.

Stephanie Lees

President : JULY 9th 2009