



## **MEO AGM 2010 President's Report Prepared by Adele Voice**

Music Education Otago (MEO) has continued its momentum throughout the 2009/2010 year, committed to improving the quality of music education in institutions, schools and the community in the region. This is due to the MEO committee making good use of their expertise in early childhood, primary, secondary and tertiary programmes, special education, instrumental and choral training and performance, resource development, contemporary music development, world music and leadership.

Music Education Otago has hosted a number of events during 2009, including:

- ♪ ***Introduction to Garageband***, presented by Regan Bennett
- ♪ ***Gamelan Playing and Puppetry***, presented by Ki Joko Susilo and Errol Moore.
- ♪ ***Classroom Ukulele for Beginners***, presented by Maria Winder
- ♪ ***Conducting for Instrumental Ensembles***, in conjunction with the Southern Sinfonia, presented by Simon Over, Peter Adams and Errol Moore
- ♪ ***Music and Early Childhood***, presented Julie Wylie

MEO workshops that have happened so far this year include:

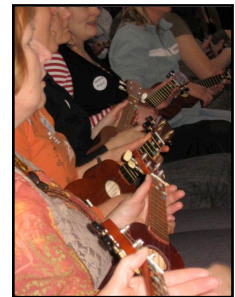
- ♪ ***Uke'n Play Ukulele***, presented by Mike Jackson
- ♪ ***Retro Recorder***, presented by Alison Tay and Justine Pierre
- ♪ ***Ukulele Kids Jam Preparation for Teachers***, presented by MEO Ukulele Team
- ♪ ***ECE Waiata***, presented by Paia Taani

And ... another three workshops are planned for 2010. These are:

- ♪ ***Ukulele Kids Jam***
- ♪ ***Jazz Boogie Week***
- ♪ ***Marimba Kids Jam***

For further information on events and what MEO offers, reference can be made to the MEO 2010 Brochure and Leaflet insert.

I would like to highlight the enthusiasm and momentum for MEO's ukulele events and interest throughout the last year. I would like to acknowledge the enthusiasm, time, organisation and support that Alison Caldwell, Ruth Buchanan and Justine Pierre have contributed to the uprising of ukulele's in schools in our region. This was kick started by a very successful workshop presented by Maria Winder from Auckland. Over 60 people attended and from here the momentum has continued with other sharing events, schools purchasing their own sets of ukuleles, and MEO providing their own set available for members to use in schools.



MEO's Instrument Loan Scheme continues to make available a collection of tuned percussion instruments for members to use in schools and education settings. The new addition of a class set of

ukuleles has been popular so far. Thank you to John Dodd for his continued overseeing of the scheme and to Alison Caldwell and Ruth Buchanan for their organisation of the ukuleles.

A Special General Meeting was held in October 2009 for the purpose of making further changes to update the constitution. As part of this the minimum quorum number for any general meeting was changed from 15 to 9 members who shall be financial at the time of the meeting.

The relationship between MEO and MENZA has been enhanced by Errol Moore's contribution, with him being both a MENZA Board member and a committee member of MEO. We look forward to this relationship growing and it is encouraging to see MENZA is asking local societies for input through a recent survey.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the MEO committee as a whole as well as each individual for their commitment to music education in our region. Thank you Errol Moore, Ruth Buchanan, John Dodd, Justine Pierre, Carole Randall and our more recent members, Liz Conway and Anna Chilcott. I would especially like to thank Alison Caldwell for her invaluable contribution as the MEO Secretary and her committed passion for what MEO stands for. Also to Annette Preston for her longstanding role as Treasurer and the experience and expertise that she brings to the position.

This year I have decided to stand down as the President of MEO due to the commitments of a young family. I am most grateful for the opportunity I have had to work with a great committee who have supported me in the role, and particularly as it has been my first experience as President/Chair. I continue to remain passionate about our local society and I am looking forward to being a part of future MEO initiative and supporting all things that make Music Education Otago what it is.