



MUSIC EDUCATION CANTERBURY

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<https://menza.co.nz/canterbury/>

REPORT FOR MEC/MENZA AGM 2024

*This report covers the time from **1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024 plus recent update***

2023 was a positive year where we enjoyed being able to engage with teachers and run events and we have been particularly grateful for the support of local workshops paid for by MENZA NeX.

As we head into 2024, we acknowledge the hard work that has gone before us as we celebrate MEC's 50th year. We especially remember people such as John Ritchie, David Sell and Graeme Wallis.

Our biggest challenge looking ahead is dealing with the law changes around Incorporated Societies and our Charitable Status. We need to revise our constitution, re-register as an Incorporated Society, and update our membership model. We will need to either do this over the next year, or choose to dissolve as a Society and Charity and come under the direct governance of MENZA.

The highlights from 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024:

- The annual Strum Strike Blow Festival in September (including over 1,052 students from Canterbury playing ukulele, marimba and recorder) featuring guest artists Ambush Brass and songwriter Kath Bee.
- MEC's support of the Early Childhood show, Primary Schools Junior Jazz Jam, and Youth workshops at the Big Band Festival.
- Doug Goodkin movie night
- Two Safer Spaces Workshops paid for by MENZA
- Maturanga Māori workshop (secondary) paid by MENZA

Administrator - Emma Cullen

Emma Cullen has been a wonderful administrator from MEC. Her attention to detail and dedication along with being an active musician, parent and music educator has meant she has been a real asset to the exec. This year she steps down from her role, but will stay involved with exec. We are truly grateful for the work Emma has done.

Membership

Anyone who is a member of MENZA and who is in the Canterbury region is automatically a MEC member without any extra local fees. This is to ensure members have the best chance for connections both locally and nationally. Anyone can subscribe to the MEC mailchimp, or belong to the MEC or MENZA Facebook groups. Usually we have some local events where we offer a MENZA discount.

According to the MENZA database we currently have 42 current Canterbury MENZA paying memberships, 30 of whom joined in 2023 or 2024. The longest membership dates back to 2014. There are 24 expired or cancelled memberships over 2023-2024. There are 148 members on the [MEC Facebook Group](#). There are 79 subscribers on the MEC Mailchimp. We have 154 followers on MEC Humanitix.

Meetings

The MEC committee meets once a term and communicates regularly by email. These were all a hybrid of Zoom and in-person.

Collaboration

Throughout this period, MEC continued to work with other local music education organisations so that various groups can support each other and offer the best for music educators and students. It is helpful having representatives on the executive from other local music education providers.

- *Canterbury Musical Parenting Julie Wylie*
- *CCMC - Michael O'Regan*
- *CSM - Celia Stewart*
- *MENZA - by Ben Lau*
- *CWSMTA - Jane Herman*
- *IRMT - Katherine Jones*
- *The Muse - Nikki Berry*
- *ARA Music Arts and NASDA - Mark McEntyre*
- *UC - Francis Yapp*
- *ONZA - Heather Libeau-Dow*

Communication

- MENZA website by advertising all workshops and events on the Canterbury page and listing events on the calendar. <https://menza.co.nz/canterbury/> This includes music education events by any local providers.
- We use the MEC and MENZA Facebook groups and events.
- We use the Mailchimp email system to reach the Canterbury region MENZA members.
- The executive meets formally once a term and communicates by email regularly.
- Emails with events sent from affiliated organisations have been passed on by Emma as they arrive, so we are kept in touch with other organisations throughout each term.

ISME

Linda Webb is the MENZA INA (ISME National Affiliate).

TUNE ME IN and MENZA website

MEC members continue to write articles for Tune Me In (in particular Julie Wylie), and aim to provide resources and events for the MENZA website.

- Hook Line and Singalong songs became available on the the MENZA site
- Support for Music Teachers document on the MENZA website

- Support with new Discourse forum (replacing Musicnet) - **encourage all to join this!** <https://menza.co.nz/discourse-te-ara-puoro/>
- Writing for Tune Me In
- Adding events to the MENZA calendar
- Writing for Tune Me In
- We are grateful to have Tracy Reed who is the current MENZA board rep for ECE and highly involved in our local MEC events and meetings.

MAIN EVENTS 1 April 2023 - 31 March 2024

- Strum Strike and Blow Festival 2023 [Full report](#) 39 schools took part in the festival with 1,052 performers
- Rob McWilliams conducting workshop - in collaboration with MusicWorks, and CSM
- Maturanga Māori workshop with Horomona Horo. This was to help build knowledge in mātauranga Māori and mātauranga pūoro in relation to the new NCEA. Sept 4th for CWSMTA paid by MENZA and hosted at Shirley Boys High School by Jane Herman.
- Junior Jazz Jam Oct 2023
- Early Childhood Interactive Jazz show Oct 2023
- Christchurch Big Band Festival with workshops Oct 2023 [Full report](#) (Chch Big Band Festival)
- Doug Goodkin Movie Night at Lumiere Theatre at The Arts Centre Te Matatiki Toi Ora. A movie about Doug's work as a music educator in San Francisco. <https://www.thesecondsongfilm.com/>. This was a lovely follow up after his workshops in ChCh earlier in the year.
- Safer Spaces Jan 31st at Hagley College with facilitators Rachel Harrison and Mel Calvesbert from <https://www.soundcheckaotearoa.co.nz/> and <https://saferspaces.nz/> with Forte Music teachers plus other music teachers. The second workshop was on March 15th and held at the Bryndwr Village. Both workshops were paid by MENZA.

Summary

Music Education Canterbury looks forward to helping provide ongoing further musical and professional development opportunities over the coming year, supporting teachers and building strong, inclusive networks of musical support and friendships.

.A huge thank you to MENZA for their continued support and for funding 3 national workshops on vital topics that we were able to host locally.

A heartfelt thank you to the 2023 MEC executive and Emma Cullen for your continued and highly valued commitment and for being a great team to work with throughout 2023.

Judith Bell, Kate Husband
Co-chairs
Music Education Canterbury
March 2023

UPDATE May 29th 2024

Societies

We have a local charities expert lawyer, Steven Moe from Parry Field lawyers helping us with our society renewal. We will still collaborate with MENZA to ascertain our actual membership names and stay firmly under the MENZA umbrella.

Strum Strike and Blow (August)

As another update, it looks like we could be heading close to record 1,700 students at Strum Strike and Blow this year from 55 schools. And we have sold 104 tickets already to the festival concert in August!

Sean O'Connor (June)

This is selling well both for the workshop and the school visits during the week. It is a collaboration with MEO as Sean will visit Otago the week prior.

Rodger Fox

Like so many around NZ we are devastated and shocked at the loss of Rodger Fox this week. He was to work with us in Christchurch later this year as part of the Big band festival with the youth workshop and gala performance. His loss also affects upcoming local festivals Southern Jam and the Aurora Festival. He was a good friend to Celia and myself for many years and we have really loved working with him over many jazz events since MEC's Jazz for Juniors and school visits (including my school) in 2007. His support for all things jazz in ChCh including the Big Band Festival since its inception has influenced hundreds of teachers, learners and community performers. He has left so many holes, but also a massive legacy like no other.