THE GRAINGER WIND SYMPHONY

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING minutes, 11th August 2021.

This meeting is being conducted electronically via Zoom as the COVID-19 lockdown of Melbourne does not allow group meetings.

**Attendees:** Roland Yeung, Robyn Yeung, Allanah Coldwell, Stuart Newstead, Penelope Latham, Melissa Kennedy, Sebastian Beswick, Robert Harry, Kara Morton, Sally Newstead, Maree van Niel, Lyle Hoefer, Julie Tiedemann, Nick Roney, Jarrod Handley, Emily Li, Ariel Kuperman, Hannah McClive, Erin Wallach, Daniel Dinh, Charlotte Gillespie, Ruth Collins.

1. **Welcome and Apologies**

Melissa delivered a welcome and the AGM opened at 7.00pm.

Apologies: Jacci Jones, Sophie Caldwell, Tracy Tulloch, Alex Campbell.

1. **Minutes of Previous AGM**

Motion: Acceptance of Minutes of 2020 AGM.

Moved by Lyle Hoefer and seconded by Robyn Yeung. Motion carried.

1. **Business Arising**

None presented.

1. **Correspondence**

None received.

1. **Reports from Executive and General Committee**: These outline what GWS does according to its Purpose and follow the Rules of Incorporation.

Refer to the 2020-2021 AGM Report for further detail to add to the verbal response.

**President’s Report**: Melissa Kennedy

Melissa felt it was amazing to be able to return to rehearsals and perform a concert which was a sell-out and her highlight for the year. She praised all players for following the COVID-19 restrictions and regretted the need to postpone Concert 2, ‘Dragons and Fearsome Critters’, and Concert 3, ‘Made in Australia’. The year involved the Committee developing policies, the most important being the COVID Safe plan including the QR code, social distancing, sanitising and the break in rehearsals for ventilation. With regret, the process for registering for tax deductable donations was abandoned as the group had no practical way of administering the fund. Also, the Committee created a By-Law to allow for any player who had paid for one concert to be entitled to vote at the AGM to accommodate the changed situation. She welcomed some very talented new players into the group. She was pleased the group was able to keep in-touch during the months of lockdown through the Wednesday informal chats over ‘Zoom’, the trivia evening and eventually the welcome dinner. Melissa thanked all people involved with the group and she announced she is stepping down from the position of President due to study commitments.

**Music Director’s Report**: Roland Yeung

Roland spent much of the year concentrating on how to manage music in the COVID environment to gain the confidence of players. He is looking forward to doing the ‘Made in Australia’ concert when it happens and the contributing composers are still

keen to be involved. The yearly repertoire list is limited to just the one concert, and how we source our music is similar to previous years. There was no guest conductor

opportunities and our Young Player Scholarship recipient had a limited exposure to music making. Roland thanked Jarrad for volunteering to compere our only concert. He also thanked Paul Van Haaster for making concert and rehearsal recordings available to players, which is a valuable resource. Roland operates the IT component of GWS (Facebook entries and the Website) as distinct from Josh who administers the technical side of the process.

**Secretary/Treasurer’s Report**: Robyn Yeung

GWS remains in a sound financial position even though there has been limited chance of performing concerts or workshops. Our only concert was profitable and most of the players who performed paid their subscription fee. Thus, some income was received. Expenses incurred depend on use of rehearsal space and concert performance thus they were also limited. We still pay fixed costs like Public Liability Insurance and APRA fees but our bank savings covers these.

Thank you to the many people who contribute time and resources to make the GWS function so efficiently.

**Concert Manager’s Report**: Allanah Coldwell.

Allanah noted GWS managed only one concert performed at St Peter’s Anglican Church, and she thanked all performers, Ruth for printing, Stick It for the percussion hire, and BHS for the rehearsal space. She is hoping we get to have another concert in September, and maybe even one in December. The September concert is booked into the new Salvation Army hall in Box Hill. This has more audience space, a modern interior and better acoustics than other venues we have used. If it proves viable we may use it more often. Allanah is progressing with a draft 2022 concert calendar that she will share with the Committee later in the year. Allanah announced her resignation from the Concert Manager’s role and called for a volunteer replacement.

**Publicity Manager’s Report**: Allanah Coldwell

Regardless of our posters and Facebook advertising, the majority of our audience comes from family and friends so keep on encouraging them to come to concerts. Penelope Ritter-Jones can no longer do the graphics for our posters so the job is vacant as is the Publicity Manager’s as Allanah will not continue in the role.

**Personnel Manager’s Report**: Penny Latham.

Penny enjoyed the new experience in this role. She thanked Roland for teaching her the intricacies of the CRM. She also thanked Jacci for guiding her on how to interact with Section Managers. All Section Managers responded quickly to her requests and were supportive. She has been impressed that, despite the lock-downs, players have been happy to return to the group. She thanked all for following the COVID Safe rules.

**Section Manager Reports**:

 FLUTE - Jacci Jones: See written report. Maree van Niel will take over the position and she thanked Jacci for the thorough handover material. So far, the job has been quiet, but the flute section is reliable and she expects to see the players when resumption of rehearsals is permitted.

 DOUBLE REED - Jacci Jones: See written report.

 CLARINET – Sophie Caldwell: See written report. Sebastian Beswick will take over the position. He commented that the clarinet section was strong and they were looking forward to getting back to rehearsals.

 SAXOPHONE – Nick Roney. See written report.

 HORN – Tracy Tulloch: See written report.

 TRUMPET – Robert Harry. His aim was to have a consistent trumpet section throughout the year and has been pleased they have stuck through thick and thin. The players were responsive and keen to keep together as a group. He was happy with how the band sounded at the first concert. He congratulated Penny for doing a great job with communicating information. He also thanked Roland for great musical direction.

 LOW BRASS, STRING BASS – Jacci Jones: See written report. Jarrad Handley will take over the position. His written report will be forwarded soon. He expects to have a full section for future concerts. He thanked Jacci for the handover material.

 PERCUSSION - Stuart Newstead: He thanked the committed players for remaining with the section. He thanked Penny for great communicating to the Section Managers. He requested a decent piano at any venue we hire for concerts and was pleased with the instruments hired for concerts.

Motion: Acceptance of all reports

Moved by Robyn Yeung and seconded by Roland Yeung. Motion carried.

1. **Election of 2021-2022 Executive Committee positions declared vacant at this AGM.**

**Nominations:**

President – Vacant, no nominations.

Treasurer/Secretary - Robyn Yeung, no other nominations.

Administrator – Vacant, no nominations.

Concert Manager – Vacant, no nominations.

 Publicity – Ruth Collins, no other nominations.

Personnel – Penelope Latham, no other nominations.

All nominees declared elected. The role of President, Administrator and Concert Manager remain unfilled.

1. **Nomination of General Committee**:

Jacci Jones, Maree van Niel, Nick Roney, Jarrod Handley

Social Secretary: Melissa Kennedy

Librarian: Jacci Jones

**Section Managers**:

Flute – Maree van Niel

Double reed – Charlotte Gillespie.

Clarinet – Sebastian Beswick

Saxophones – Nick Roney

Trumpet – Robert Harry

Horns - Tracy Tulloch

Low Brass & String Bass – Jarrod Handley

Percussion – Stuart Newstead

These volunteers will be confirmed at the first committee meeting of the new Committee along with other managers.

1. **Subscription and Joining Fee Rate Annual Review and Ratification**:

Motion: The subscription fees remain unchanged for the year 2021.

Full = $280 and Concession = $200.

Concert by concert rate; Full = $70 and Concession = $50

Moved by Melissa Kennedy and seconded by Robyn Yeung. Motion carried.

1. **General Business and discussion**:

General discussion here on the COVID 19 density restrictions referring to the rehearsal space GWS uses (Blackburn High School). If the density is 1 to 4 square meters, the full quota of players may not fit when furniture is taken into consideration. If the density quota returns to 1 to 2 square meters, then all is fine. The new Committee will consider this situation before rehearsals begin. Erin commented that communication between players, Section Managers and the Committee was appropriate and allowed for quick responses to the evolving COVID processes needed for compliance to the rules.

Emily Li volunteered to do the graphic designing for the GWS posters.

The Committee will meet on September 12th at 7.00pm probably on ‘Zoom’.

Meeting closed at 8:04pm