2023 Pan Pacific Barbershop Convention
Auckland NZ

14 - 17 September 2023

Newsletter Number 2

dated: January 2023

PAN PAC 2023

Thursday 14 to Sunday 17 September 2023

Kia Ora / Hi Everyone,

So, what's been going on since the last newsletter? Plenty behind the scenes but let's come to the important stuff. Read on

Who will be competing?

Invitations have been issued to all BHNZ and BHA Chapters, as many as we can reach in Japan and the Sounds of Aloha in Hawaii. We have had provisional positive responses from 14 chapters from BHNZ and 13 choruses from BHA (so far), one chorus from Japan and the Sounds of Aloha. We expect additional quartets who are not affiliated with Choruses, but we don't know who they are yet.

Headline Acts

That's right. "Acts" is plural. We have decided to bring you not just one but two Headline Quartets from the USA. "Instant Classic", the 2015 International Gold Medal Quartet Champions, have followed up on their commitment made for the cancelled Pan Pac 2022 and are excited to be joining us for Pan Pac 2023. And, as this is an Everyone in Harmony event we have asked "GQ", a top international Women's Quartet to add to the fun. Of course you can get googling right now, but we will be bringing you more info about the boys and girls in future Newsletters.



Instant Classic

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GQ

The Pan Pac 2023 Website

Find it at https://www.convention.barbershopharmony.nz

The website is now up and running although there is not much in there yet. We will slowly add information as it becomes available, but these Newsletters will be the primary source of information for you. Why don't you print them off and keep them in a file – old fashioned maybe but, hey, it works.

The most important part of the website will be the Registration Site, but that is some way off.

Finding Accommodation

Accommodation in Auckland City is plentiful.



CBD Hotel



Suburban Airbnb



On The Waterfront

Rather than attempt to co-ordinate everyone's requirements, we will leave it to Chapters and individuals to book their own. A good place to start your search is Google Maps. If you enter the search words 'Auckland' 'CBD' and 'accommodation' you will get a good picture of what is available and an approximation of cost at each place. (Hover over the cost label and simple details of the accommodation provider will be revealed.)

Enter 'Victory Convention Centre' to see where it is on the map.

If you look for Directions from a possible accommodation provider to the Victory Convention Centre and select the pedestrian icon, it will not only show you the distance and time to walk the route but also a pictorial representation of any hills you may encounter.

Will there be a Convention Headquarters Hotel?

This is a question often asked and the straight answer is “no”.

The Judges and CAs will be staying at the “Quest on Beaumont Hotel”, a small hotel adjacent to the contest venue (The Victory Convention Centre). The Headline Quartets will be staying at the “M Social Hotel” on the waterfront.

A Change

The BHNZ and BHA Judges School, mentioned in the last newsletter, will now be held after Pan Pac and not before.

The Māori Language for Visitors

The three languages used in New Zealand are English, Māori and Sign Language.

We thought you may enjoy finding out a little about the Māori language, or as they call in Māori, Te Reo Māori. You will see it in many place names, and if you need to ask for directions, it helps if you can say place names correctly. And it is fun to give it a go.

Let’s start with some vowel sounds. The Māori pronunciations of the vowels written in English as a – e – i – o - u are: ah – eh – ee – or - oo. In other words:

a is like the 'u' in cup
e is like the 'e' in egg
i is like the ‘e’ in eat
o is like the 'o' in for
u is like the 'o' in to.

(When it comes to diphthongs, where there are two vowels joined together in a place like Marahau, it works on that same principle with ah-oo... just speed them up to join them together and it sounds like an oh.)

A macron over the vowels: ā – ē – ī - ō - ū lengthens them. So that gives you:

ā is like the 'a' in car
ē is like the 'ea' in measure
ī is like the 'ee' in heel
ō is like the 'ou' in your
ū is like the 'oo' in roof.

And a couple of extra sounds to help say some words:

‘ng’ is like the ‘ng’ in singer
‘wh’ is like the ‘f’ in father

Try saying “Ngāruawāhia” (a place near Hamilton in the Waikato region). And “Whenuapai” (an airfield near Auckland). Yay! Nailed it!

Nga mihi mahana (Warm regards) and Tau Hou hari (Happy New Year),

Richard



Richard Hedley
Chair, Host Management Committee for Pan Pac 2023
on behalf of Barbershop Harmony New Zealand
+64 (0) 27 451 3191
convention@barbershopharmony.nz