CONVENTION BULLETIN #2
February 2025

Kia ora tātou!

Greetings from Ōtautahi Christchurch. There is a lot of information in this bulletin. You may need to make a cup of tea and sit comfortably before starting to read it!

In brief, you can now:

- Register and get your place at the Afterglow, Dinner, and STAR and soundcheck choruses
- Indicate your interest in a 40th anniversary ruby badge
- Donate to the Prue Blythe Foundation
- Get your own T-shirt and send it in to be printed with the glamorous ruby 40th logo
- Plan your dress up for the Afterglow theme 'Paint the Town Ruby!'
- Send in photos and videos of your chorus for the 40th anniversary highlights reel

Afterglow – Our theme for this evening is "Paint the Town Ruby!"

For those of you who love to dress up – please do! You can choose to attend the Dinner and the Afterglow, or just the Afterglow. Purchase your tickets on the online registration form. If you wish to buy a ticket for a partner or friend you can do so on the form.

The 40th Anniversary Dinner will take place at the Limes Room, Christchurch Town Hall, from 7pm on Saturday 3 May. The cost for the plated dinner and Afterglow is $125. (Unfortunately, we had to increase the price from the amount originally stated.) There is a bar (eftpos) where you can purchase drinks. The room seats 250, so tickets will be allocated to those who reply first.

The Afterglow will take place at the Victoria Room, also at the Town Hall, from 8.30pm – 11.30pm. The cost, which includes a light supper, is $45. There is a bar (eftpos) where you can buy drinks. Once the dinner is cleared away, we can flow between the two rooms. A highlight of this evening will be the 40th anniversary video presentation.

SANZ 40th anniversary highlights reel - it's your time to sparkle and shine on the big screen!!

During the annual convention we'll be showing a highlights reel featuring key moments from the Region's last 40 years. To make this a success we need your input! We would appreciate each chorus providing us with the following so that we can weave together the story of our last 40 years.

What we need from you

For each decade, please provide photos and videos featuring your chorus. Suggested highlights are:

- first rehearsal or charter party
- new members nights
- shows & other performances
- retreats and coaching
- fundraising
- contests and costumes
- newspaper/magazine/social media posts

To put the presentation together in time for contest we need you to provide your chorus photos and videos **by the end of March.** We will check in with chorus team coordinators around mid-February to advise how to send or upload these resources and to answer any questions you might have. FYI we will be contacting quartets directly to get their photos and stories.

If you have any comments or questions about the video, please get in touch with Kerry Stewart, kerry.stewart.nz@icloud.com

40th Anniversary T-shirt

If you would like a T-shirt printed with the SANZ 40th Anniversary logo you need to purchase your own shirt. It must have a plain front, no pockets or stitching, no low necklines, cotton or polycotton is best. White or black is the best colour. Each chorus should appoint someone to collect the shirts. Make sure that they are named with the individual and the chorus.

The shirts then need to be couriered to Christchurch (Pam Brian, 13 Fifetuscan Way, Lincoln, Christchurch 7608) **by Monday 17 March**. Please enclose a list of names and the total number of shirts for your chorus. The cost to print will be $10.50 per shirt. Once the shirts have been received, we will invoice choruses for the printing cost which will need to be paid to the Region.

Printed shirts will be available to collect at the Registration Desk on 1 May. They will be in chorus boxes, so whoever collects them will need to collect all the shirts for the chorus. Chapter at Large members can send their shirts individually.





Music in the Morning

On Friday morning, in the James Hay Theatre, there will be an education class run by Shelley Bascand and Alex Charlton. These women used their education scholarships to attend the Directors and Visual Leaders Seminar in Tulsa, USA last year. You do not need to register for this session: more details will be in the next bulletin.

SANZ 40th Anniversary Badge

As advised in the previous bulletin, badges are an optional extra this year. If you would like one of the unique 40th anniversary ruby badges (see pic below), please indicate on the registration form. The cost will depend on how many are requested; once we know how many are required, we will advise the actual cost. Choruses and CAL members will then be able to make firm orders.



Education Classes

Details about the Sunday morning Education Classes will be advised as soon as possible.

STAR chorus

Please indicate on the registration form if you would like to be part of the STAR chorus.

Anyone attending our regional competition who is a member of Sweet Adelines International (including visitors from overseas), and who is NOT competing in either the international or open division of the chorus competition, is able to sing in the STAR Chorus. Members of any evaluating choruses are able to sing in STAR Chorus. Members who are competing only in the quartet contest are also welcome to join the chorus.

There will be one or two rehearsals in Christchurch (possibly Fri and Sat morning, TBC). Patti Cooke from Bella A Cappella will be directing.

The songs are: Don't Stop (Thinking About Tomorrow) (Fleetwood Mac), and Memories (Maroon 5**).**

Sound Check Chorus

Please indicate on the registration form if you would like to be part of the Sound Check chorus. The testing will take place on Thursday 1 May, 7pm in the James Hay Theatre. Robyn Abernethy from Dunedin Harmony will be directing. You should know the songs well enough to sing without music.

The songs will be How We Sang Today and Something in the Water.

Mass Sing

This will take place in Victoria Square (beside the Town Hall Complex) at the conclusion of the Friday contest. If wet, it will be in the James Hay Theatre.

Change to Panel Secretary

Sharon Connor will be Panel Secretary for the Convention. Unfortunately, Cindy Naresh is no longer, for personal reasons, able to take on this role.

Audience Tickets

Members of the public, friends and family will be able to purchase tickets at the entrance to the James Hay Theatre each day to watch the contests (more details later).

Registration Form

Here is the link to our online registration form: **https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/SANZ40thRego**. **Early bird registration closes on 1 March 2025**. You will need your SAI number to complete the form.

Registration for the STAR and Sound Check choruses is included in the online form.

Please complete and submit as soon as possible. Please note that you pay your chorus your registration fee, donation to the Prue Blyth Foundation, and Afterglow ticket unless you are a Chapter at Large member.

Any queries about the convention please contact me, pam.brian@xtra.co.nz

Pam Brian

Chair Regional Convention 2025