

## **Levin Folk Music Club -Annual Report for 1<sup>st</sup> July 2021 – 30<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

### **AGM Friday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Your committee have been working hard this year to improve the venue and to offer as much variety as possible.

As in past years we have a small number of volunteers to take on jobs like setting up the hall for the concert night, taking on the music sound system when required, welcoming people at the door and organising supper. It does tend to be the same people who regularly take on these jobs and we would dearly love to have other members who might take on one of these duties now and then. Just speak to any of the committee if you feel you can offer a hand, or take on a specific task. You do not have to be a committee member to do these jobs, and may only need to offer your help on one or two concert nights in a year.

The stage furniture has been improved recently, as Keith and Paul work towards tidying up the wires for speakers, amplifiers etc. Movement around the hall is much easier with the removal of all of the heavy wooden tables and the lighter tables purchased in 2021. Also, to our great relief, we have recently heard that the roof, which had been leaking for years, has finally been repaired.

While some members find the raffle a bit of fun in the evening, the cost of prizes is not always covered by the sale of tickets. We need to consider whether to continue with raffles. This was mentioned at our last AGM and as there was no real response from members it is continuing as ever. This year, in spite of smaller audiences during Covid lockdowns., we did make a profit of \$95.09

Following last year's AGM a few members had requested that we used "local" entertainers more often, rather than people from further afield. Up until the end of 2021 we were already committed to artists for some of our concerts, but at the beginning of this year we began with a slightly different system. Artists have been from the Kapiti /Horowhenua region for regular concerts, but we have also changed two of the concerts to more fully develop our locals. These evenings have had the usual Blackboard in the first half, followed by up to five "floorspots" . Club members were able to perform a more practised slot

of songs, lasting a maximum of 15 minutes. Although the audience numbers were down slightly, those who performed and those who attended as audience were very positive about these two concerts.

Danny has spent the last year on the committee and has been the driving force behind our decision to change the way we organise the concert nights. We have him to thank for encouraging us to look at the aforementioned changes in the “floorspot” concerts, and although he is now resigning from the committee, we are sure he will continue to take part in Club affairs as he has always done.

Rona Cooper has been co-opted as secretary for this year and she is thanked for all the work she does: keeping minutes of all committee meetings, linking in and booking with performers and writing up a regular monthly article for the Chronicle to promote our concerts.

Jean Hollis is resigning as secretary but is prepared to remain on the committee. Her resignation is a result of her being over committed to other associations, and she has very much appreciated Rona’s willingness to take on much of the secretary’s role over the past year.

Our community has also benefitted from other festivals in our region such as the Himitungi Hootenanny. These events are usually limited a little by the size of the venues, and if members plan to attend they are advised to book in as soon as possible once the event is announced. For those able to attend it is a good chance to see what other clubs are doing and meet members of other folk clubs.

This year we have co-opted Susan Jenkins, (Val and John’s daughter) to help get our website up and running again. Susan spent a whole day with the committee a few months ago, working to see how she could enhance the website to suit us all. She does rely on us to send her the material we want to put on the website and we are very grateful for all the work she is doing for us. I do hope you have all checked the website recently to see how it is working for our club.

Many thanks to the small committee for their hard work and support over the last year. We all owe a special thanks to Val and John Jenkins, who regularly

run the front desk, the raffles, and deliver Val's contribution of muffins which are valued and sought after at supper time by many of our audience. Few people realise that Val and John are usually first to arrive at concert nights and always last to leave, doing a meticulous check of everything before shutting down. Many of us are probably tucked up at home while they are still packing up in the hall!

Paul and Keith are also thanked in particular for their management of sound. This involves being there for set up in the middle of Friday afternoon, and then ensuring they are there until the very end of the evening packing everything away. We thank them both for providing an encouraging atmosphere on our 4<sup>th</sup> Friday gatherings as well.

We do appreciate the small number of members who are frequently involved in setting up the hall, serving the supper, acting as compere, helping as a stagehand, so if you would be prepared to help in any of these areas, please do let us know. Our thanks go to the few bakers who add to the supper by bringing a contribution.

Can we persuade any of you to join the committee? It is not an onerous job, but we cannot go on forever expecting the same people to run the Club. `