

Muse News

Newsletter of
THE MUSE
Community Music Trust

Winter 2017

Greetings to all our Friends! Thank you for your support, it makes a real difference to the way The Muse can help others. In this newsletter is a review of the recent winter concert, thanks to Jo Cherry; and an update on the Hub by Jacinta.

Best wishes
Nadia

Review of the Big Muse Winter Concert, 25th June 2017 *by Jo Cherry*

Not even a bitterly cold Winters day could stop the Friends and supporters of The Muse from enjoying a spirited and passionate performance at Beulah Church on Sunday 25th June. The West African Drumming class began the concert with a high intensity performance led by Maganui Stewart and Robert Fugah. The joyous rhythms and vocals had the audience joining in. Robert's infectious happiness and Maganui's passion were wonderful to see.

Open Song Choir took the stage beginning with an evocative piece, Kuaka/Godwits, that painted a picture of these amazing birds. They then sang Calango in

Portuguese, and Amavolovo which is a South African arrangement. The choir performed with passion and their last piece, Prince's "When Doves Cry", sung with A Capellago, was haunting.

A Capellago World Music Choir gave an assured and very engaging performance of songs from Israel, Spain, Haiti, and Cuba with the small ensemble singing beautifully with very impressive solo performances by some members.

The Rockers of Ages demonstrated their wide repertoire with their first work "Lovesong" by the Cure. The arrangement of this work for choir was well done and delivered with confidence. "Asho Chela" from Georgia and "Kitakami" from Japan were sung with real skill and were totally engaging. "Ode to Leunig" which Nikki Berry wrote with reference to a Leunig poem, was a refreshingly honest and touching piece that ended a well delivered and impressive set by the Rockers.

The massed choir left the audience with the experience of a truly beautiful and heart-warming winter event. Well done to all involved!

The Hub *by Jacinta O'Reilly*

With the Phillipstown Hub our Home Base now, I recommend you pay a visit. It's not only The Muse events which are a drawcard, I was at the Matariki celebration last Friday and (in spite of the appalling weather!) it was an evening full of music, community and shared activity with a hangi and sourdough bread baked in the Hub pizza oven.

The Phillipstown Community Centre Charitable Trust holds the lease on the property, and Mary Ann Bell (community development worker) and Viviana Zanetti (Hub coordinator) will both give you a warm welcome. You can learn about the other tenants and activities on the Hub website at www.phillipstown.org.nz. Viviana is a tireless worker for the Hub, full of great ideas to promote it, and she is keen to enlist Muse members to lend a hand for one-off events or as regular participants.

Contact her at viviana@phillipstown.org.nz. Gardeners are particularly welcome at the moment!

Of course we are especially pleased with our own room. It has been developed into a warm, comfortable and intimate space - friendly and welcoming with soft lights, drawn curtains and a beautiful sound. Hearing the A Capellago concert in this space last month was amazing (see photo below). We have fantastic neighbours, generous support, a strong community spirit and wonderful facilities at the Phillipstown Hub. We'd love to see you there.

The Muse gratefully acknowledges the support of the Christchurch City Council and the Rata Foundation.



A Capellago creating a beautiful sound in our room at the Hub