



1. Introduction

1. Welcomed to the 5th RMIT Music Committee Meeting (16-04-2014)
2. Meeting Begins at 5:10 pm
3. Attendees:
 1. Present: Lauren, Trent, Damien, Andrew, Geordie, Yass
 1. Late: Tim (5:24), Rhiannon (5:26), Yuki (5:36)
 2. Apologies: David, Lettisia
 3. Absent:
4. Quorum (6 people from the committee): established

2. Confirmation of Previous Minutes

1. Minutes from:
 1. Moved Andrew, Seconded Geordie
2. Publication
 1. Moved Andrew, Seconded Geordie
 1. Rhiannon to do

3. Business Arising from the Previous Minutes

1. Lauren
 1. Organise Lawn Bowls
 1. Done. Hoping for 16 people
 2. Acquittal
 1. RMIT Music Done
 2. Need to do Concert Band
 3. Make Facebook event for mid year concert
 1. Done
2. Trent and Geordie to run the intermission drinks. Appoint others as needed.
3. Trent is stage manager
4. Rhiannon
 1. Publish previous meeting's minutes
 1. Still to do.
 2. Create event for next meeting
 1. Done
5. Submit stage plans and program details no later than May 1st
 1. To be done by next meeting.

4. Reports

1. From now on reports will be submitted and distributed before the meeting to save time. Upload a PDF of your report to the Drive - Committee/Reports – then the relevant folder. Single file per report, must be a PDF.
2. President's Report
 1. Appendix A
 2. Oxford Scholar has contributed 1 voucher as a raffle prize for the mid year concert
3. Vice President's Report
 1. Appendix B
4. Treasurer's Report
 1. Appendix C

2. We need to refund Michael's membership
3. Still need the list of members from ROCS
4. 46 paid members
5. Follow up email have been sent
5. Band Reports
 1. Chamber Orchestra
 1. Appendix D
 2. ROCS
 1. Appendix E
 2. Should get ordered music soon
 3. Cabaret in Aug-Sep
 3. Stage Band
 1. Submitted ad for trumpeters, piano, drums
 2. Attempted melband (musician forum to find new members), didn't go so well
 4. Concert Band
 1. Appendix F
 5. Recorder Consort
 1. Appendix G
 6. Flute Ensemble
 1. Appendix H
 2. May need new representative
 7. Ukulelified
 1. Appendix I
 2. We need to find out why they have applied for funding for tuners when we already have some
6. Musical Directors Report
 1. N/A
5. **Agenda Items**
 1. Concert
 1. Poster
 1. Need poster approval from Erin. Follow up with Anna about changes
 2. Intermission
 1. Still need to ask for intermission help
 1. Ideally with RSA
 2. Not in ROCS
 2. Raffle
 3. 1 prize from Oxford Scholar
 4. Queensbury has been contacted
 5. Trent needs to ask Critical Hit
 3. Ushers
 1. Ask Concert Band and Stage Band for volunteers
 4. Program
 1. Lauren writing it
 2. Needs details more than 1 week before concert
 1. Previous date has been set at 1st May
 3. Reduced conductor blurbs
 2. Camp Semester 2
 1. End of week 3 or 4
 1. Maybe 9th/10th August
 2. Accommodation Options
 1. Wye, Great Ocean Road, \$25/head/night, max 32 people, no public transport, 2.5-3 hours drive

2. Nothing has been found in Gippsland
3. Keep looking!
3. Performances
 1. Schools, RSLs, Retirement Villages (not retirement/nursing homes), community centers
3. Group Administration – regarding the situation with the Stage Band saxes
 1. See Appendix J for details of the conversation
 2. We need a standard way to deal with groups with too many members
 3. Should committee have been consulted first?
 1. Why?
 4. Should have been talked about in a more organised fashion with group executives
 5. We need to be inclusive
 6. Discuss with the whole group
 1. i.e. not just the non-students impacted
 7. We need a mission statement in the Constitution
 8. Should the committee be consulted with stuff like this or is it an ensemble only issue?
6. **Other Business**
 1. Flute Ensemble
 1. Yuki is leaving (2nd May) – Cate can temporarily take over rep duties
 2. Otherwise going well
 3. 3-5 members each week
 4. Maybe RMIT Music should purchase some flutes?
 1. Could purchase Yuki's?
7. **Next meeting proposed for Wednesday March, 7th at 5:00pm**
 1. Meeting Closed at 6:24pm
8. **Action Plan:**
 1. All
 1. Keep looking for camp locations
 2. David
 - 1.
 3. Lauren
 1. Concert Band Acquittal
 2. Refund Michael's membership
 3. Put together concert program
 4. Trent
 1. Appoint people to help with the stage management
 2. Ask Critical Hit for raffle prize
 3. Ask Concert and Stage Bands for usher volunteers/intermission help
 5. Rhiannon
 1. Publish previous 2 meetings minutes
 6. Ensemble Representatives
 1. All
 1. Submit stage plans and program details
 2. Damien
 3. Andrew
 4. Geordie
 5. Lettisia
 6. Tim
 7. Yuki

Appendix A - President

During the previous fortnight we have had a few sign-ups, five in total, three new, two current. I have contacted them, and I will contact those whom have signed up already but who are not coming to rehearsals as of yet.

I have also organised to have the RMIT Music Visitor Card #4 re-authorised for use in building 56/57.

Bank signatories have been changed now

There have been a lot of sign ups on system, I will be going through an creating contact lists of current members from the UNIONE system to the Google contacts.

Jenny mentioned that the asset list is rather lax with comparison to the stands stringed instruments and other assets which we have. I will have a look at it and then

I intend to go through the processes document at some stage, to make it a bit more practical, with regards to event organisation.

We had a letter from the Cadbury fundraising group, regarding ordering another set of chocolates, and Easter specials.

If any ensemble wants to perform on campus, then just tell me, there are many small places which we can easily facilitate a performance, if the interest is there.

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

We will be having a rehearsal next week, as the Concert Band is having one.

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

We should purchase a flute for the collective

Appendix B - Vice President

Upcoming Event:

- Lawn Bowls
 - Booked from 5:30pm on Saturday May 10th at City Bowls Club in Flagstaff Gardens
 - Estimated numbers 16 but needs to be confirmed with the venue
 - Cost \$17.50 per head
 - Dinner afterwards? Royal Standard Hotel – William Street

Appendix C - Treasurer

Bank Balance: \$1913.09

Income: since 30/03/2014 \$205 in membership

Expenses: since 30/03/2014 \$69.75 in banked cheques

Upcoming Cost: Initial payments for lawn bowls but expect full cover by member's payments

Reimbursements: Trent, \$26 for the purchase at the music place yet to be completed, cheques for Frazer for fuel on camp and Jenny for Chamber Orchestra music in the draw

Current paid members: 28 Students + 18 non-students = 46

Other

- David and Rhiannon are now signatories for the bank account
- Funding application submitted for RMIT Music (\$5000) and Concert Band (4975)
- Acquittal still in progress as of 14/04/2014

Appendix D - RMIT Chamber Orchestra

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?

There has been an excellent turnout leading up to the mid semester mark. Many new regulars have established themselves as a part of the group. All in all, the turnout for the lower string has been high but for the higher strings it could do with some work. We have generally had 12 to 16 members per week; prior to mid semester.

Is this good, bad or stable?

This is a well-established situation and for the group it is stable. Compared to last year this time we are weary of the inconsistency of turnouts of the rehearsals for a large group; due to the close approach of Concert.

Musical decisions:

Any additions or removals of pieces?

As it stands we are working on the following pieces:

- Sleeping Beauty Waltz
- Snippets from Fantasia
- Now I see the Light - Tangled
- Pinocchio Medley
- Let it Go - Frozen
- Beauty and the Beast Medley

Jenny has composed for us the Pinocchio medley and is currently finishing up the Fantasia medley.

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

There are no issues with scoring on the most part but for bought pieces winds are doubling up on violin parts. According to David the Werribee Concert Band will kindly lend us the use of Wind Chimes and a Xylophone/Glockenspiel.

Any other notes on musical decisions.

Jenny and I are aware of the time limitations and concerns the committee have expressed to us numerous times. As it stands, a formal run time has not been conducted but will be done in the coming weeks. We might need to remove one piece from the run order.

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

N/A

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

N/A

If so how were they?

N/A

Do you have any coming up?

N/A

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

N/A

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

N/A

Appendix E - ROCS

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?
Generally between 20-25. We're holding steady at 22.

Is this good, bad or stable?

Good! Also, stable.

Musical decisions:

Any additions or removals of pieces?

Removal of a few pieces from the French concert (May 9th) for the choir due to time constraints. They're being replaced with solo/duet/trio/quartet pieces. 'Eatnemen Vuelie' by Frode Fjellheim is the main piece chosen for the RMIT Disney Showcase Concert. Still waiting on music to arrive, but it should be here this week.

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

We were a bit alto-heavy for a while, but an influx of new baritones and sopranos mean that we can balance things out a little more.

Any other notes on musical decisions.

Music for the SEH Awards Ceremonies has been finalised as follows:

Health (13th):

-Carbo Junkie - This is a four-part round written by our Musical Director Alexandra Uitdenbogerd.

-Gaudeamus Igitur

-Past Time - Written by King Henry VIII

-Peace Be - depending on time and if it makes the cut

Science (15th):

-Still Alive. From the video game Portal

-Gaudeamus Igitur

-When I Heard the Learn'd Astronomer

-Java Jive - again depending on time and quality.

Engineering (21st):

-Tourdion

-Gaudeamus Igitur

-Past Time -ibid

-Promised Land - one of our best pieces.

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

Weekly pub dinners after rehearsal.

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

Orientation

Queermance Writers' Festival

Harmony Day – we were approached by an Events staff member to perform at Pearson & Murphy's cafe and other places after the Harmony Day performances at the chaplaincy. We

received a \$50 voucher for our efforts and potentially gained a new member for our French concert. She's a member of a French choir called "Lalala" if I remember correctly.

If so how were they?

Orientation – Brunswick was fairly dead, as per usual, but the city garnered us a lot of interest. We acquired several new members from that day.

-Queermance: We performed to an excellent standard each night. The organiser has approached us again and wants to organise another event at the same location (Hares and Hyenas) in August, most likely a Cabaret.

-Harmony Day: We performed well, both at the event and at the impromptu performances afterwards.

Do you have any coming up?

ROCS Semester 1 French Concert: May 9th, Kaleide Theatre, 7:30pm.

SEH Health Awards Ceremony: May 13th

SEH Science Awards Ceremony: May 15th

RMIT Music Semester 1 Disney Showcase: You know the details

SEH Engineering Awards Ceremony: May 21st

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

N/A

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

No.

Appendix F - Concert Band

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?

15 last week, this is the highest we have had all year.

Is this good, bad or stable?

We have consistently had at least 11 people for the past 4 weeks. Some members are unable to attend every rehearsal.

Musical decisions

Any additions or removals of pieces?

No additions, no removals as of this stage.

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

Lacking a trumpet, part is being covered by tenor saxophone. This part will still be missing for the concert (Tim will be away). We don't have a drummer, some percussion and snare are being covered though.

Any other notes on musical decisions.

We have 5 possible Pieces for the concert. Total time is too much. We will decide soon which piece will be removed to fit the allocated time.

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

Weekly pub dinners after rehearsals.

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

None.

If so how were they?

Not applicable.

Do you have any coming up?

Nothing aside from the concert.

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

N/A

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

N/A

Appendix G - Recorders

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?

Seven in total.

Is this good, bad or stable?

Good from last week we had Andrew Valentine come along to start playing the Bass

Musical decisions:

Any additions or removals of pieces?

We are running at about 15 minutes so we may remove a 'When you wish upon a Star,' because of length, technical difficulty and also in case the Chamber Orchestra wants to play their version. (although the two are probably musically different enough to showcase different stylistic elements)

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

Jemma is on Tenor now with me, Andrew is doubling on the Bass with Damien. Another Alto might be nice, although we are currently going to reduce the Tenor and Bass to one player for the the Alto solos.

Any other notes on musical decisions.

None

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

Only the standard dinner

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

None extra

If so how were they?

Not applicable.

Do you have any coming up?

Nothing concrete.

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

No rehearsal this week, probably next week on Anzac day possibly pending the Chamber Orchestra

We are officially members of the VRG for this year

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

One of our members suggested we put labels (RMIT Music ones) on the music stands with numbers so we can identify the bad ones and find out if any are missing.

Any instrument left for at least two years should have a name and contact details

We should purchase a flute for the collective

Appendix H - Flute Ensemble

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?

Six in total. Four able to play at the concert, and one extra person who will begin learning to play the flute with us over the next few weeks

Is this good, bad or stable?

Given the ensemble is still in it's infancy it is a good result so far.

Musical decisions:

Any additions or removals of pieces?

We are running at about 15 minutes so we may remove a piece.

Currently we are going to perform:

- The Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairies
- Schubert's March Militaire
- Bizet's Entr'act from Carmen
- Bizet's Prelude from Carmen
- Debussy's Sarabande

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

We don't face these issues, but having more than two players means we can vary between duets and quartets so far.

Any other notes on musical decisions.

None

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

Only the standard dinner (with Concert Band)

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

None extra

If so how were they?

Not applicable.

Do you have any coming up?

Nothing concrete.

Appendix I - Ukulelefied

Attendance:

How many attendees have you had over the past x weeks?

5 for the last 3 weeks 6 people overall and interest from a few more who have been unable to attend so far.

Is this good, bad or stable?

Awesome! We're growing fast.

Musical decisions:

Any additions or removals of pieces?

Lots of additions, I bring a few along each week to try out. Actual Showcase pieces: we're trialling *You've got a friend in me* from toy story this week. Stage band says they don't mind as they will sound quite different. *Raining in my heart* and *Five foot two* are sounding great. We are working on arrangements for *I will wait* (Mumford and Sons) and *I'm yours* (Jason Mraz) but they won't be ready for Showcase.

How is the scoring of the ensemble, top heavy, bottom heavy, section heavy, etc?

Its all ukuleles! Seriously though I'd like it if someone other than me was able to sing and play uke at the same time (and I can only sing while playing simple chords). We have plenty of singers in the group, I guess I can ask one to not play in order to sing, even for a few bars. Any other notes on musical decisions.

Social sides:

Has your ensemble been doing anything social over the between meeting periods?

A few of us went Ukulele shopping on Friday. I have found some ukes that sound lovely for \$90 for a soprano however the proprietor is happy to give us a discount as we are a club.

And club members can get tuners for half price. (Lord Uke, Elgin St, Carlton)

Performances:

Has your ensemble done any?

Nope

If so how were they?

-

Do you have any coming up?

Showcase

General comments

Any other general insights or interests from your ensembles?

Has anyone come to you with committee business?

Nope

Appendix J

- 

3/13, 2:27pm
Yassin Eltahir
This message comes to you all with a heavy heart
Because of the influx of new RMIT students, we're overflowing with sax players at the moment and it's looking likely to stay that way. All this means that non-students have to make way and as I see it that means somebody has to miss out. Currently we have:
Alto 1: Will Alto 2: Alan Tenor (1 or 2): Andrew
That leaves us with space for Tenor, Bari & Trumpet 2 (assuming a bunch of trumpets don't magically appear).
Tim, as I understand it you'll be partying in the US of A for the concert? If so then priority goes to people who'll be there. That leaves 3 places & 4 candidates. Ideally there'd be space for all of you but I can't rationalise a spot at the moment (feel free to make suggestions!).
Sooooo, any volunteers either for a part or to sit out?
Another option is to take turns on different songs, or who ever misses out conducts?
- 

3/13, 2:30pm
Trent Howard
I can sit out and shout abuse while you guys play.
- in reply to Yassin Eltahir from David Garrick
- 

3/13, 5:35pm
Lauren Ritchie
I understand the importance of prioritising the RMIT students and it's great we have some new members. Could we look at doubling a part? Say Ez or Rhi play Bari, the other tenor 2, Tim could come along to double a tenor part and Trent or I play trumpet on tenor while the other doubles an alto part? Or an arrangement such as that so all are included.
- 

3/13, 6:11pm
Erin Ritchie
- 

3/13, 6:12pm
Erin Ritchie
Gah... Didn't mean to do that... Sorry!
- 

3/13, 6:13pm
Trent Howard
- 

3/13, 6:13pm
Trent Howard
I'm not sure what that means...
But apparently you can use it in conversation?
- 

3/13, 6:15pm
David Garrick
Generally Trent, that's my call to action, but I am only observing.
- 

3/13, 6:16pm

Trent Howard

Heh



3/13, 7:20pm

Yassin Eltahir

I've thought a lot about doubling parts but the issue I see is that we already have more saxes than brass & our saxes are generally stronger & more confident than our brass meaning they're louder and over power the brass.

In terms of doubling the brass I am reluctant to have more than 1 sax in each section because it changes the timbre of the section. If we had a 2nd bari that would work to fatten out the bones.



3/14, 12:06am

David Garrick

Do you guys need a drummer at Stage Band these days?



3/14, 12:12am

Trent Howard

We had a new guy Michael come along this week. I think he'll be back. But whoever it is can come along anyway.



3/14, 7:03am

Erin Ritchie

Didn't two drummers turn up?



3/14, 7:50am

Erin Ritchie

I am very disappointed that it was felt appropriate to send this message. I thought that RMIT was a collective of likeminded people who got together, had fun and did something they all love, this I do not see this fitting with those principals. At this time I would like to end my RMIT membership and involvement in Stage Band. I was very much looking forward to putting in and getting out music and community involvement but I will forfeit my spot to ensure that my sister Lauren who has if you reflect put a lot into the organisation the opportunity to play. She can then fill in either the tenor or Baritone, that way Trent, Lauren and Rhi all long standing RMIT members have the opportunity to be involved, and Tim double until he leaves. The idea that Trent arguably the best sax player in the group is "conducting" I strongly believe is not also the best for the group either. I hope that if I was not Lauren's sister I would not have received this message. If a spot opens up in the future then I will consider the decision to rejoin until this time please let me know if there is anything I need to do to assist in refunding my membership, camp and t-shirt money.



3/14, 8:58am

David Garrick

You know what works with the String Ensemble, and RDCS, having a smaller subset of the Ensemble which can preference Students and allow for balance issues to be adjusted for, while not making anyone be excluded.

We do have a duty of care to our members to provide 'an open environment, that emphasises fun, learning and improvement.'

Perhaps at least one or two charts can be found that encompass this sort of rhetoric. I mean Yass you said yourself that you didn't want to start rehearsals until you had a firm grip on the instrumentation that would be present this semester. Now you have an idea, is there any way of adjustment?

Let's keep in mind that this is a discussion. Ideas are to be exchanged and hopefully we can come to an arrangement that suits everyone. We don't want to turn anyone away.

We have two new altos, which is great, but they could use a confident and reasonably strong player to guide them. I think Will will be fine once he settles in a bit, but Alan might take a little longer to gain confidence. I suggest keeping Lauren on alto to bring a solid foundation to the section.

The two tenor spots are fine covered by Andrew and Erin. Tim can play 3rd or 4th trumpet and hopefully bring some confidence to the section before he leaves (without adding too much distraction). Hopefully playing a lower part will bolster the trumpet sound instead of muddying it down.

Rhi is cool on Bari.

As for me, I'm happy to conduct, and there's a multitude of reasons I elected to sit out. First and foremost, I want to see the newbies take over. They need to take solos, lead sections and become confident in their playing. When we call for solos in particular, people are shy to put their hand up and it falls to me (or my ego dictates that I just do them all!). If I remove myself as an option, someone has to step up. We risk stagnation if new people don't start taking over.

Balance has long been an issue in stage band. With someone out the front we can work on that and make sure everyone gets heard. I'll be able to focus solely on running the rehearsal, rather than Yass trying to figure out his part and keep an ear out on everything else.

This isn't my only musical outlet. I love playing in stage band, but I still get to play elsewhere.

Lastly, I can't do this forever, and if we don't have students enthusiastic and capable enough to take over we'll slowly die. Hopefully we can groom some into committee positions.

Also there's some bullshit about not being a student, not paying SSAF, but that contributes so little to my decision it's hardly worth mentioning.



3/14, 11:03am

David Garrick

Yes someone last night, I've said turn up, and dutifully mentioned the concert band, but you may have another.



3/14, 11:03am

Yassin Eltahir

They are more than welcome to come.



3/14, 11:11am

David Garrick

You also had another flute player inquire, but I have convinced her to come to Orchestra.



3/14, 11:12am

Trent Howard

Convince her to come to concert band! We currently have 0 flutes.
Also, let's not diverge from the main topic.



3/14, 11:22am

Rhiannon Dawlings

I've been talking to Yass about this in person rather than here which may not be particularly helpful.



3/14, 11:23am

Trent Howard

That's fine. If there's something you want to put to the whole group you know where to write it.



3/14, 11:26am

Rhiannon Dawlings



3/17, 4:58pm

Trent Howard

When do they want an answer by? We'll need to check people's availability before we commit.



3/17, 5:20pm

David Garrick

I will be meeting on Thursday.