



THE POWER OF HARMONY CONVENTION 2021

24-26 September



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THE HOST CHORUS

In the increasingly distant past of 1996, Neville Kennedy, along with a group of like-minded individuals, came together to form a Barbershop Harmony Chorus. Initially meeting at the local Teachers' College, Manawatunes was born. The likes of Andy Hutson and David Birdling from Harbour Capital Chorus were instrumental in helping the Manawatunes set up the chorus and go on to win the Small Chorus Section at Convention Rotorua 1997.

These early years are notable for a strong group of singers with a drive to perform to the best of their ability. These years are marked by the successful *Heartsong* Convention in Year 2000 with headline quartet Jokers Wild and fun songs like Southern Roses, the Railroad Rag and Myfawnwy.

In 2012, our founder and Musical Director Neville left us for sunnier climes. Irreplaceable as Neville was, we found able Musical leadership under the baton of Stuart Johansen, who has led us to further success while expanding and modernising our repertoire somewhat. As Barbershop Harmony New Zealand Champion Small Chorus in 2019, 2018, 2014, 2010, 1999 and 1997, we're proud to have our name on the Manawatunes Trophy, for which small choruses vie. We're prouder still to be hosting The Power of Harmony and look forward to seeing you there!



ON THE DAY

A competitor's journey



This is the big day, you are ready to shine before your peers. Well rehearsed and primed for vocal excellence, you look at the programme and see your time has come. Your Chorus is due to report.

Feeling primed and passionate to give it your best, you step out into the grand foyer of the Regent Theatre, pausing momentarily to take in the grandeur and glance at your competitors performing on the television in the foyer.

But it is time. You ascend the grand staircase, only pausing on the landing to adjust uniform in the vast mirror against the wall, and reach the mezzanine.

Waiting here is a smiling, welcoming usher. The chorus gathers around you, while the final paperwork is sorted. You gather in silence, prepared for what's ahead, not wanting to disturb the glories which are occurring in the auditorium so near.

"Shall we go, people", your usher leads you onward. You climb the stairs to the Rehearsal room and ascend the risers. You watch yourself in the mirrored wall as you go through your paces one last time. Your Musical Director beams at the glorious sound emanating from the chorus.

Then, all too soon, it is over. Your usher intones "It's nearly time for us to move on, please place your personal belongings in this box. One last swig from your convention water bottle, then in the box it goes and you're moving.

Down the stairs you go, to the very bowels of the theatre, so it seems. You approach a red door, where an impeccably groomed doorman waits to let you out into the sunlight of the Regent Arcade.

Blinking in the glory of a typically gorgeous Palmy day, you walk Regent arcade. Tempted as you feel to stop for a drink at the Celtic Inn as you pass, you know full well that this is not the time, you know how disappointed you would be to miss the moments coming so soon.

You near the backstage door and pass through. Vaguely in the distance you can hear the applause as the chorus before you completes their set. As the applause dies, the vast stage door opens and you enter, stage left, to ascend the risers, ready for victory.

The curtains part. Your crowd awaits.

For quartets, your walkthrough will be similar to this dramatised one, but will allow for one more stop prior to stage to straighten up and feel ready.

Where there are stairs, a lift is available for those with mobility issues. Please let us know if you have any persons with such issues, and we'll be sure that accommodations are ready. We will ensure facilities exist, your chorus is responsible for providing a support person.

Find a virtual traffic pattern tour at <https://youtu.be/jkuEPI6J6mQ>

What else is happening

Religious Services

This convention, we have opted not to host a Barbershop Service. Instead we are offering a list of Sunday services and religious venues in the area in your convention booklet. We encourage you to ensure you get back in time for the AGM and Lunch.

President's Forum Saturday 25th September @ 1:30pm in Regent on Broadway

As it has been at conventions prior, during the weekend John Denton, BHNZ president, will meet with chapter presidents for a wide-ranging discussion about the organisation, the craft and how choruses and the national body can work together even better. If there is anything you think needs to be raised, let your president know, so they can ensure this is on the agenda for this forum.

AGM

On Sunday morning at Distinction Hotel
at Bar 175 @ 10:30am - 12 noon.

Sunday Lunch 12:15 - 2:30pm

Due to the large numbers attending this convention the CPG has had to split the lunch over two venues.

Distinction Hotel will be hosting 400 including VIP's and the **Convention Centre** will be covering the over flow. There will be a Live Stream to the Convention Centre from the Distinction Hotel. It will depend on 'who was first' when registering which will determine which venue you will be at. Some have already elected not to attend the lunch due to commitments or flights but if you want to change your mind and attend the lunch please let Warwick McWha know.
mcwha21ad@gmail.com

Partner Program

We are offering two bus trips that can be taken by the partners of those competing. It depends on numbers of course...

If you are interested please let us know your preference.

Trip 1 - A visit to the wind farm and Herb Garden at Ashhurst and morning tea there.

Approx. 2hrs. Friday 10am-12.

Trip 2 - Biggin Hill, RNZAF Ohakea Airbase vintage WWII aircraft and Sanson Viv's Kitchen for a cream horn.

Approx. 2hrs. Friday 10am-12.

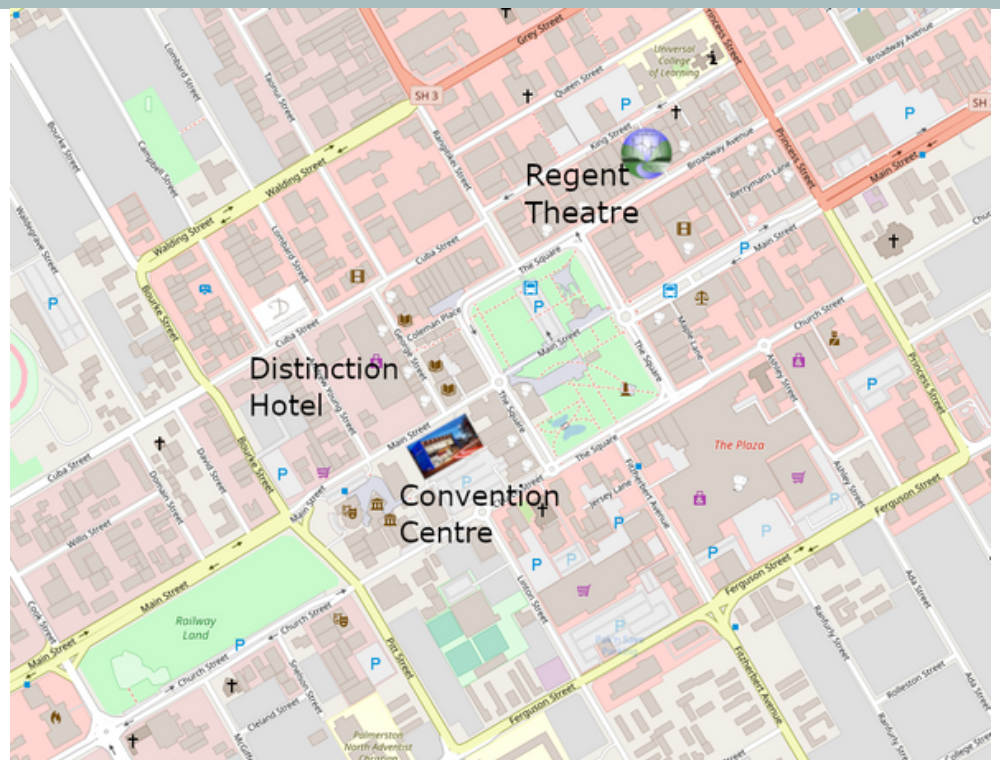
The Convention Program is very tight with so many competing so **it is essential to let us know as early as possible.**

Greg Thomson gnaatagraphics@xtra.co.nz



WELCOME TO PALMY

Food, Drink and fun!



Within easy walking distance of our primary venues, the Regent Theatre, Distinction Hotel and Palmerston North Convention Centre, you can find many shops, two cinemas, two live theatre venues and a vast array of eateries from Turkish to Korean to Vietnamese and many more. There's green space to relax and sing and a good range of places of worship to sate your religious needs. Though you'll be kept fairly busy with convention, our helpful hosts will be more than happy to assist you in finding ways to fill any downtime you may have. There's so much to do in the mighty Manawatu, we heartily recommend you stick around for a few more days - take in the Young Singers in Harmony Concert on Thursday night and make a week of it discovering the many delights of Palmerston North.

Tickets on sale

Got friends and family who want to see our Saturday Night show? Or maybe you'd like to join us on Thursday to see the excellence of the Young Singers in Harmony! Find tickets for both events at <http://www.regent.co.nz/whats-on.html>



PALMY™