

Notes from a meeting of the Music Focus Group

19th October at 7pm

Apologies: Bloss, Paulene

Present: Chas, Dulce, Tim, Ken, Paula, Allen, Heather, Helen, Eliza, Bron, Amanda.

Thoughts since last time: Good Session on the Saturday- feeling of positive energy.

SPACE:

We talked about the proposed changes to the Space – General acceptance of the seating in the round, and no compulsion to be in any particular seat. eg. Possibility of singers being spread around behind the congregation, or sprinkled all through. Different seatings for different Sundays. There may be a moveable speaking desk/pulpit – cut down from the original.

Amanda reported that Murray suggests not to change the wiring but to add to it. This offers more flexibility.

2. We agreed that in inviting lists of music people cannot do without it would be helpful to put up our selections (Helen has a list of favourite hymns from the 10.30 service – perhaps we put that up – notice that her memory of the top hymn is false – it is NOT Immortal, Invisible!) See Appendix 1.

Most of this meeting we spent considering again the implications of the changes for our music repertoire, with overall consent that

a) we need to keep a bit of everything, - provide some familiarity for everyone attending.

b) some thoughts of having particular Sundays of the month which have eg. a chanted psalm, perhaps a Sunday that is taken by the children. NB We thought that the time to decide such things could be at the Worship Leaders' meeting.

c) there was a feeling from several to make sure that we do not lose the Psalm, especially in its 'new' Easting format with congregational responses. It will be always in Evensong, and could be on two (?) Sundays in the month. Discussion of its strangeness to visitors unfamiliar with it – sometimes we could use a hymn or song that reflects very closely the psalm ideas.

d) strong support to make sure that the services are not too long.

e) The Lord's Prayer: several thoughts: some would like it spoken – perhaps in whatever form people wish. New tunes? Keep the Psalm in Maori – some would prefer with guitar not with organ. Ringing the changes can keep it fresh.

f) while on the subject of te reo Maori, a new song strongly recommended for Parihaka – He Honore. Known to young people through school (?) and other congregations.

5. Rehearsal format

- Heather would dearly like to change from Thursday to Wednesday – (which would suit the band). Major consideration: David's timetable, Martin's Kapiti Choir.
- Suggested that we start at 7pm.
- We have a fortnightly structure: eg. – see Appendix 2

6. We decided on some dates:

Wednesday November 2 6.30. Everyone to bring 3 songs for consideration. Apologies from Bron and Ken who will still produce music for the rest of us to consider!

Thursday 17th everyone attend rehearsal (some discussion then about changing day: to be deferred till after 27th November)

Thursday 24th everyone attend rehearsal

Sunday 27th note – no Heather, and no keyboard player at this point.

Appendix 1

favourite hymns and songs

For St James' day 2010 we are asking you to **nominate** your favourite hymns and songs, with the intention of singing the most popular in the St James' day services, and over the succeeding Sundays where appropriate. If choosing a hymn, remember to also nominate your favourite tune. (Ask a choir member if in doubt.) For *one* choice, please tell us **why** you nominate it. Please place your completed form in the box at the back of the church by – Sunday July 4th.

Results:

Top	Be Thou my vision
Second equal	All my hope on God is founded Praise my soul the King of heaven
Third equal	Alleluia sing to Jesus God is here as we his people Guide me O thou great Redeemer Now thank we all, our God

Appendix 2

(this entirely made up by Helen)

Weeks one and three would require band instruments etc.

If we made the 'all comers' week 2 and 4 it could be better timed: eg

Evensong week 2 could be shorter and the songs/hymns an hour.

All this subject to experimentation.

Week 1

7 – 7.45 evensong with 'friends'.

7.45 – 8.30 songs/hymns for the next fortnight with all participants

8.30 – 9pm. Choral work for the following Sunday.

Week 2

7.00 – 8.00 evensong with 'friends'

8.00– 9.00 choral work for the following Sundays

Week 3

7 – 8.00 songs/hymns for the next fortnight with all participants

8.00 – 9.00 choral work for the following Sundays.

Week 4

7 – 9 Choral work for following Sundays

Week 5

As needed.