

# musT

a newsletter from



music therapy  
new zealand  
Te Roopu Puoro Whakaora o Aotearoa

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[www.musictherapy.org.nz](http://www.musictherapy.org.nz)

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Chair: Heather Fletcher

President: Daphne Rickson

Administrator: Lynn Gestro

## From the Chair

by Heather Fletcher

As Rugby World Cup fever sweeps through the country it's easy to forget what else is going on in the world. Let's firstly spare a thought for Christchurch, which is still striving to regain some sort of normality. Our Cantabrian music therapist colleagues report ongoing challenges both on a personal and professional level. However, like so many people in Christchurch, they are continuing to do their work, which is even more important given the trauma many of

their clients have experienced as a result of the earthquakes. Earlier in the year I wrote about a proposed project to support Christchurch music therapists. In consultation with these music therapists, Music Therapy New Zealand has now been able to offer a support package which we hope will ease the burden slightly and enable our colleagues to continue to do their valuable and much needed work. Each MThNZ member Registered Music Therapist has been given petrol vouchers to the value of \$200 and MThNZ will fund a music therapists' day, for Christchurch music

therapists to come together and re-charge their batteries in music making and other related activities. There is also funding available to support ongoing work and new projects. MThNZ has also pledged to use all donations received in this financial year to support music therapy work in Christchurch. Please contact the Administrator if you would like to make a donation.

Thinking back nearly twelve months ago – only a few weeks after the first earthquake hit – Christchurch still managed to successfully host the MThNZ Conference 2010. As you may be aware, there is no conference this year, as MThNZ has opted for biennial conferences in recent years. That does not mean to say we have been idle though. Work is already underway for the MThNZ Conference 2012 entitled: Music and the Brain – Developing Pathways, to be held in Auckland. Confirmation of dates and the keynote speaker will be available soon, so keep an eye on the website for details. This promises to be an exciting event not to be missed.

Continuing on the theme of developing pathways, since Puoho Katene stepped down as Kaumatua for MThNZ, the position has remained vacant. We are now honoured that Professor Tairahia Black has agreed to become MThNZ mentor in matters that relate to tangatawhenua in Aotearoa/New Zealand. Professor Black was initially approached to become our Kaumatua, however, at his suggestion, he has accepted the title of Kaitautoko Ahurea (Cultural Support). Professor Black has links with Massey University and has been a guest Keynote speaker at a previous MThNZ conference. We look forward to a long and mutually beneficial collaboration.

Well, I have successfully managed to avoid talking about rugby, but I guess we do have at least one thing in common – that of team work. As always, I would like to thank the

team of music therapists and lay members which make up Council, Education Training and Professional Practice Forum (ETPP) and the Registration Board, without whom none of our work could be done.

## Memories of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Music Therapy: ‘Music Therapy in Eastern and Western Philosophy’, Seoul, South Korea

by Dr. Daphne Rickson, President MThNZ

The 13<sup>th</sup> World Congress of Music Therapy, hosted by the World Federation for Music Therapy in conjunction with Sookmyung Women’s University in Seoul, and chaired by Dr Byungchuel Choi, was the first to be held in Asia. Despite only having a 15-year history, music therapy has developed rapidly in Korea, and a large percentage of the approximately 1400 conference delegates were from this country. However, delegates also came from over 45 other countries to attend presentations addressing a wide range of topics including the supervision and training of music therapists; assessment, multicultural issues and the use of technology in music therapy programmes; clinical practice issues; and music therapy research.

On each of the four days of the congress, ‘spotlight’ sessions were offered, with teams of four experts addressing the topics of ‘Music Therapy and Medicine’, ‘Music Therapy and Special Education’, ‘Music Therapy and Older Adults’, and ‘Music Therapy and Research’, in turn. It was a relief to be able to attend plenary sessions, and not have to ‘choose’, as we did at other times, between the 169 papers, workshops, roundtables, or clinical forums. We also tried

to find time to view the 48 poster presentations and the trade stalls! Nevertheless, either the standard was very high, or I made some excellent choices, because I was consistently impressed with the presentations I attended. Examples of what I was able to hear include:

- The spotlight session on music therapy and special education in which Catherine Threlfall (Australia) presented the potential for music therapists to enable lasting change by working at a whole school level; Dena Register (USA and Thailand) contrasted access to music therapy in the US with developing music therapy services in Thailand; Youngshin Kim (Korea) discussed the philosophies and practices of music therapy in special education in Korea; and Alan Turry (US) focused on the Nordoff Robbins approach to music therapy and current research being done at a pre-school for children with developmental disabilities.
- Christine Neugebauer's workshop on supporting adolescents through music in the paediatric medical setting. I felt very comfortable with the way she approached the young people she worked with, saying "I'm just here to make the hard stuff a little bit easier". Christine's workshop was made all the more enriching and 'real' because I was able to participate in music making with fellow attendees.
- Jennifer Tiao's presentation on the post-earthquake crisis intervention in China. Jennifer lived and worked with survivors in a 'transitional resettlement' in the earthquake zone of Sichuan, for approximately one month. Her approach was to use music therapy, based on the music and dance people were familiar with, as well as drum circles, to stabilise and mobilise the inner resources of the survivors.
- Hanne-Mette Ridder and Brynjulf Stige's research protocol to investigate the effect of music therapy on agitation and quality

of life for people who have dementia. These researchers have developed a protocol for 'practice-relevant' research combined with a multi-centred randomised controlled trial (RCT). Instead of changing music therapy practice to enable an RCT to be implemented, they have used findings from a pilot project to adjust the RCT design so that music therapists can collect data as part of their daily practice. Inspirational work of this kind will enable music therapists to maintain their usual practice approach, while ensuring that music therapy is increasingly valued by medical practitioners, policy makers, and funders.

- Raymond MacDonald's paper on musical identities. Raymond discussed the uniquely 'human' process of musical improvisation within music therapy in cancer care, psychiatric hospitals, and community settings. To end his presentation Raymond described, in some detail, the sophisticated musical improvisation that he was about to show us. His video clip was a fascinating example of toddler twins communicating in 'twin speak', and provided a convincing argument for innate musicality. If you haven't already done so, I would encourage you to Google "twins talking" – it's amazing!
- Staying with 'babies', I enjoyed Reiko Wada's description of her work with a baby in the neonatal intensive care unit. Reiko's detailed transcript of the interaction between the baby and music therapist provided exciting evidence for the power of carefully considered but uncomplicated vocal intervention to calm baby, develop bonds, and prompt her communication.

In addition to attending sessions, I was able to have several semi-formal meetings, as well as social encounters with colleagues who had similar interests to mine. This resulted in the potential for on-going collegial

exchanges, shared research opportunities, and friendships. Most significantly, the 'Aussie girls' welcomed us to their group with open arms, even needing to be reminded occasionally when asked "where are you all from" not to give the collective "Australia" answer!

Conference attendees were treated to an abundance of cultural performances including traditional Korean dance by the Mi-dam Dance Company, and the Chung-Ang music group with various subgroups who played improvised ensemble music on traditional stringed instruments, gave performances of traditional drumming, body percussion, and folk songs. We also heard the Modern Harmonica Ensemble for Sookmyung's School of Music performing folk songs from many different countries represented at the congress. The mostly very lively performances were enhanced by the brightly coloured costumes, flowing cloth and ribbons. As audience members, we were frequently moving, dancing, singing, or calling our appreciation. Time was found for exploring Seoul, using the subway system, shanks' pony, and the generosity of a dear local who was kind enough to take us (twice!) in her car to see the night sights. I am left with a very strong sense of the Korean people being very kind and generous, as I was also spontaneously 'gifted' an umbrella, 'helped' across the road with a heavy bag, given maps and very clear directions, always with a smile. I was most grateful for the umbrella, since we were in Seoul in the monsoon season and another lasting impression is of torrential rain!

I left New Zealand feeling physically well, but pretty exhausted. I returned feeling energised and exhilarated despite a flu virus which had me feeling physically unwell. This is testament indeed to the professional and social nurturance I was privileged to receive in Seoul!

## Update from Christchurch

by Liz Wallace, RMTh

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It has been an incredible year in Christchurch. The dynamic process of the surface of the earth moving has shaken and continues to shake us. The deaths and injuries caused by the February 22<sup>nd</sup> earthquake have touched us all in various ways and remind us of the fragility of human life. There have been over 8000 earthquakes in Canterbury since the 7.1 earthquake on the 4<sup>th</sup> of September last year.

Thank you to Music Therapy New Zealand and the Music Therapy community nationally and internationally for all the support you have offered the Christchurch Music Therapists. The emails, texts, phone calls, offers of holiday accommodation, and the petrol vouchers and support for Professional Development from MThNZ have been much appreciated.

Several of us attended the 'Singing for the spirit' workshop taken by Julian Raphael, director of the Wellington Community Choir, which was made possible by a donation from the New Zealand School of Music. It was a wonderful opportunity to feel the benefit of group singing (that we weren't leading!).

There have been and continue to be many challenges for Music Therapy clients, Music Therapists and Music Therapy work and study resulting from the earthquakes. Sessions have been disrupted. Damage to buildings has resulted in clients leaving Christchurch, extra travel for Music Therapists to see clients in alternative accommodation, and sessions being cancelled while alternative venues were arranged.

Clients, staff, Music Therapists and students, our family, friends, neighbours and others in our community have had traumatic experiences in the major earthquakes. The

impact of this trauma is continuing to be felt. At times it has been challenging to maintain ourselves to a level where we can provide Music Therapy when we, our family, friends and communities have been affected. We have been reminded of the importance of self care.

Things that appeared to be certainties or that we take for granted have been shaken up, and as we know in Music Therapy improvisations uncertainty, while not always comfortable, is a place and time for creative possibilities to unfold. It has led to shifts in focusing on what is important, and thankfulness when services that we previously took for granted are restored – drinkable water, flushing toilets, functioning electricity network and driveable roads. Repair work continues on the roads, sewage system, electricity network and water and drainage systems. Demolition work continues, creating unexpected spaces and possibilities. There has been a pulling together of communities including strengthening of relationships with neighbours, sharing of venues and premises, and creative solutions to the disruption.

Music therapy continues to play an important role in supporting our clients in a variety of settings. We welcome Jenny Lee, Music Therapist back to Christchurch. And congratulate Kimberley Wade (nee Jones) on the birth of her daughter in September. The Therapeutic choir pilot based on the Auckland CeleBRation choir is being developed. Megan Spragg continues to be a member of ETPP. We look forward to Sophie Buxton and Winnie Huang becoming fully fledged Registered Music Therapists.

A heartfelt thank you from us all in Christchurch for your support.

Liz Wallace, Registered Music Therapist, for the Christchurch Music Therapists and students.

## Research funding received to study CeleBRation Choir

by Laura Fogg, Centre for Brain Research

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The Centre for Brain Research has secured research funding from the Health Research Council to undertake a feasibility study on participation in the CeleBRation choir, including what people think of it as a concept. The study is called: “SPICCATO Stroke and Parkinson’s: Investigating Community Choir Engagement and Therapeutic Outcomes”. Professor Suzanne Purdy will link with a multi-disciplinary team including Speech Language Therapists Dr Clare McCann and Sylvia Leao, neuropsychologist Dr Lynette Tippett, qualitative researcher Associate Professor Stephen Buetow, rehabilitation expert Professor Kathryn McPherson from AUT, CBR Communications Manager Laura Fogg and Registered Music Therapist Alison Talmage. The team will look at therapeutic outcomes from being part of the CeleBRation Choir, for people who have problems talking because of a stroke, along with people with Parkinson’s disease who can develop voice or speech problems. Auckland registered music therapists have also taken part in focus group interviews as part of the study.

## Arts Access Aotearoa – ‘Big A Awards 2011’

by Daphne Rickson

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On 20<sup>th</sup> July I attended the Arts Access Aotearoa ‘Big A Awards’, held in Parliament Buildings, Wellington. Arts Access Aotearoa aims for all people to be able to participate in the arts, whatever their circumstances. They work with groups and individuals who support people with disabilities, disconnected youth, mental health services users, and refugees, and one of their key

roles is advocating for the arts as a tool for rehabilitative change in prisons.

“The Big A Awards provide recognition for those who have been able to break down barriers and unlock the potential of New Zealanders” (Hon Christopher Finlayson, Minister for the Arts, Culture and Heritage). The community partnership award for 2011 went to Mairangi Arts Centre and Department of Corrections, for their collaboration resulting in exhibitions and carving installations which were beneficial for the prison and North Shore communities. The creative space award was won by King Street Artworks of Masterton, who provide a therapeutic environment for people who have used mental health services to engage in artistic endeavours. All materials and equipment are provided free of charge, session times are flexible to enable people who work to attend, and the organisation promote an ‘open door’ policy. Makuei Aken, from Southern Sudan, who now lives in Upper Hutt, won the artists award for 2011. Makuei came to New Zealand in 2003 after fleeing the civil war in Southern Sudan, with his aunt and two cousins, leaving many family members behind in unknown places. He now has four stories and poems published in the collection entitled “Beyond the Dark Journey” (Wellington Refugees as Survivors Trust), and has written and recorded a song, with school friends, called “Southern Sudan”. Sharon Hall won the Prison Arts Leadership Award 2011, while the Govett-Brewster Art Gallery in New Plymouth won the Creative New Zealand Arts for their efforts to ensure the gallery was accessible for all, through, for example, the use of sign language and touch tours, staff disability awareness training, large-print exhibition guides, and website design.

This was an exciting evening punctuated by regular and powerful performances by Nga Maioha o Rangikauia kapa haka group, and background music by Caitlin Smith.

## Summary of ETPP Meeting minutes – 30 July 2011

The Education, Training and Professional Practice Forum last met face-to-face on Saturday 30 July 2011 from 9am to 3:10pm in Wellington. Apologies were received from Sacha Van Beek. The meeting was chaired by Andrew Tutty, ETPP Convenor.

Main issues discussed:

- Music Therapy DVD – now complete. (Since the ETPP meeting the DVD has been uploaded to the music therapy website frontpage.) ETPP will recommend to Council that the DVDs are copied professionally, sent to all MThNZ members at their next subscription renewal, plus new members and that copies should be available free of charge to RMTh promoting MThNZ.
- 2010 Conference Proceedings – uploaded to the MThNZ website. ETPP agreed this should be done for future conferences, but that presenters need to know early, and should be a condition as part of sending in abstract/ consent from clients. Call for papers to include this.
- Christchurch earthquake response co-ordination – no replies received from any RMThs to volunteer to go to Christchurch under initial application on bringing music to Christchurch. Application then changed to focus on RMTh practicing in Christchurch which has been taken to Council for response at their Council meeting on 31 July 2011. ETPP to recommend to Council that all 2011 donations to MThNZ should go to supporting music therapy in Christchurch.
- Strategic Plan – ETPP looked at activities under each key objective to decide ETPP’s priorities to take to Council.

ETPP priorities: Workshop for new MTh; Distribution of DVD; Payscale.

- Registration Board – policies and procedures tightened. A current practising certificate is now required to maintain registration. Move towards annual renewal of practising certificates to bring in line with other professions. By end of 2014 all RMTh will be on one year practising certificates, when fees will be reviewed.
- Other: RMTh Forum Moderators List has been produced; IHC Librarian Liaison Person – search in progress to find interested RMTh for this role; Website – Accessibility theme now available; Professional Writing Skills Workshop – delayed until 2012 due to other music therapy commitments during 2011; Review of Code of Ethics – specific wording to be looked at plus Code in its entirety; ETPP received resignation from Megan Berentson–Glass as a rep on Council. ETPP to look at filling this role with another RMTh.

## Summary of MThNZ Council Meeting minutes – 31 July 2011

The MThNZ July Council meeting was held face-to-face in Wellington on 31 July from 9am to 4:20pm, chaired by Heather Fletcher. There were no apologies.

Key matters discussed:

- Council were informed of Megan Berentson–Glass' resignation as ETPP rep on Council, and of Sacha Van Beek's departure from ETPP, and that work was in progress in replacing these posts. Council officially thanked Megan for her contribution and wished her well. Morva Croxson and Judy Field were co-opted to MThNZ Council for a further year.
- Strategic Plan – It was noted the six key objectives for the next 2–3 years are additional to the ongoing work people do. Council agreed they needed to be clear about intent/vision statements/ objectives and accept activities may come and go depending on people's capacity to undertake voluntarily. It was decided to hold a teleconference in September to discuss the specifics of the Strategic Plan.
- Council discussed Christchurch situation in detail. Council agreed: RMTh who were members of MThNZ should be supported. MThNZ to give all donations received this year to support music therapy in Christchurch. Situation is long-term and support needed to be on-going. Petrol vouchers could be sent now, plus look at fund to support RMTh members in Christchurch. Council agreed that MThNZ would fund a Day for all RMTh in Christchurch to come together to make music.
- Project Application Guidelines reviewed. Now only two categories and approach letter no longer required. Kept strong RMTh involvement on Project Grants Committee. Guidelines and application forms to be made available on the website.
- Conference 2012 – Council endorsed ETPP's suggestion of a theme: "Music and the Brain – Developing Pathways". Council agreed to discuss Conference in detail at the next teleconference.
- Finance matters were discussed including the audited accounts and the MThNZ Award Funds. It was decided for the next two years to hold one project round for applications to the Funds with due date 30<sup>th</sup> June, and that both the PhD and undergraduate scholarships be advertised from 2012 for the McKenzie Scholarships. Council agreed to set copies of NZJMT at \$40, with Friend membership included, if not already a member.

- Registration Board – relationship between Registration Board/ MThNZ – important Board retains independence but wishes for close working relationship with MThNZ, while remaining autonomous. Council noted there was a need to agree to phrasing that describes accurately relationship between Registration Board and MThNZ.  
Registration Board will be looking at their own logo – distinct from MThNZ to avoid confusion.  
Council clarified Chair’s job on Board is information sharing only – between Council and Registration Board.
- Website – website has been upgraded. Frequent website music therapy enquiries since upgrade. Currently working on accessible online forms for Registration Board and subscription form. Move towards making Fund application forms accessible online also. Working version of accessibility theme on the website.
- World Federation of Music Therapy (WFMT) – World Congress have a new President. Relationship to become more active between WFMT liaison and ETPP.  
Council congratulated Daphne on her appointment to the World Federation Research & Ethics Committee.

their library, and it was good to be able to view the space. The environment is warm and inviting, with excellent resources and spaces for reading, writing, and computing, as well as stunning views over Wellington harbour. Attendees at the opening were welcomed with drinks and nibbles, and it was helpful to be able to talk with IHC staff and visitors, all associated with the disability sector. During the short speeches offered by staff and management I got a strong sense of the passion and pride that IHC staff have for this project, and felt privileged to be part of this event.

## Exciting line-up of speakers for NZSM Music Therapy Conference

Early-bird registrations closed on 7<sup>th</sup> October for the New Zealand School of Music-hosted music therapy conference, “Performing and Inquiring – Celebrating Practice-based Research in Music Therapy and Related Professions” on 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> November 2011. There is an exciting line-up of speakers, including Keynotes Professor Denise Grocke and Associate Professor Deborah Fraser. See the NZSM website for the full conference programme details or [click here](#).

## The Opening of the IHC Library

by Dr. Daphne Rickson

I was pleased to be able to attend the opening of the ‘new’ IHC Library on 4<sup>th</sup> August. Although the library has been in existence for approximately 40 years, it was certainly important to celebrate its new location on the 14<sup>th</sup> floor of Willowbank House, Willis Street. IHC have offered to house music therapy texts in a section of

## Dates of next MThNZ meetings

MThNZ Council had its final face-to-face meeting for the year on July 31. The next full Council meeting will be held via teleconference on 23 November 2011. ETPP’s next meeting date is to be confirmed. Please contact the administrator if you have any agenda items you wish discussed by ETPP or Council.



**Minutes of 2011 Annual General Meeting of NZSMT/Music Therapy New Zealand** held on Saturday July 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011, at New Zealand School of Music, Wellington at 3:30pm.

**Present:** Ruth Armstrong, Megan Berentson-Glass, Ajay Castelino, Morva Croxson, Judy Field, Heather Fletcher (Chair), Lynn Gestro (Administrator), Barbara Mabbett, Daphne Rickson (President), Megan Spragg, Keryn Squires, Kathryn Stevenson, Janine Stewart, Andrew Tutty (ETPP Convenor), Karen Twyford, Judith White, Linda Wilson.

**1. Apologies:** Victoria Churchill, Claire Molyneux, Marjorie Orchiston, Alison Talmage, Penny Warren, Marie Willis (nee Bagley), Catherine Wilkinson.

**2. Welcome:** Chairperson Heather Fletcher welcomed all present and read the apologies.

**3. Minutes of 2010 AGM** held in Christchurch on 9 October, 2010. Megan Berentson-Glass asked that her surname be spelled correctly.

Chair Heather Fletcher moved that the minutes with amendment are a true and accurate record. Carried.

At this point in the AGM, the completed MThNZ music therapy DVD, a result of the internal Music Therapy Promotional Project was viewed publicly for the first time to applause by those present.

Karen Twyford explained the DVD had been made with the support of IHC, and soon would be on the MThNZ website. MThNZ would be inviting other organisations to put the DVD on their website by linking into the MThNZ website.

#### **4. Matters Arising from Minutes:**

- Wording of 2006 Code of Ethics

The specific wording referred to was "moral obligation" under section 4.g. It was reported by the Chair that section 4.g. had been agreed to in principle and the Registration Board and MThNZ have been working closely in the past year at ways of encouraging greater RMTh membership, including a new box on the Registration Board application form asking the question: are you a member of MThNZ?

It was reported that the Registration Board was intending on setting up its own website which would list all RMTh regardless of MThNZ membership. ETPP had set up a working party to review the entire code of Ethics and specifically the wording of 4.g.

**5. Chairperson's Annual Report:** this had been circulated and was taken as read. Chair Heather Fletcher paid tribute to Council for their tireless work in the past year.

**6. Annual Report from ETPP.** this had been circulated and was taken as read. Convenor Andrew Tutty thanked members of ETPP for their contributions in the past year, administrators Petra and Lynn, as well as a special note of thanks to Morva Croxson for her advice and minute taking when needed. Andrew drew attention to key achievements - the updated website and RMTh Forum plus the completion of the music therapy promotional DVD project.

Comments following:

The level of professionalism within ETPP with congratulations on the level of depth of expertise now within ETPP.

Disseminating the DVD –availability paramount. Upload to MThNZ website/ YouTube/ invite other organisations to put on their sites. Hardcopy of DVD to all members as part of their membership renewal. Message from this generic video is "I might like to use a music therapist". Other videos needed, with more interaction. Actively focus on where we are taking DVD and using it. (Andrew to take comments to Council.)

Andrew was thanked for his work as ETPP Convenor.

- **Annual Report from Registration Board:** This had been circulated and was taken as read. Heather (on behalf of Registration Board Chair, Claire Molyneux) highlighted the tightening up of the process

surrounding applications and renewals to make it more efficient and tie in with other organisations, plus Standards of Practice being developed for music therapists to meet criteria for the Allied Health Professionals Association Forum (AHPAF).

A vote of thanks to Claire was passed for her response to a high volume of work over the past year.

**8. Annual Report from Journal Editor:** This had been circulated and was taken as read. Editor Karen Twyford mentioned she had recently been approached by ProQuest database to consider a licensing agreement, which is being considered. ProQuest approaching MThNZ meant enough journals have citations of NZJMT to warrant an agreement.

Karen was thanked for her work as Journal Editor.

**9. Finance:** The Annual Accounts had been circulated. Administrator Lynn Gestro commented on important items:

The Lindgren Award Fund has been over-allocated for the past two financial years, due to there being more quality applications, while interest and dividend income percentage allocations were down. The Lindgren Fund is being rested this year to external applications, to consolidate funds, and Council will be looking closely at the best way forward to keep this fund sustainable.

Deloitte, receivers appointed to Dominion Finance Group (in receivership) continue to forecast a 10c to 25c per \$1 invested recovery to debenture holders. Currently MThNZ has received a 9.5c payback. The honorary auditor, David Wood, has cautioned that the amount recovered is likely to be the lower end of the range, and a further write down of Dominion Finance funds may be necessary.

Due to financial constraints only one McKenzie scholarship was offered for the 2010/2011 year.

Lynn thanked members of the Secretariat for their support during her period of parental leave.

Questions/comments that followed:

Apart from Dominion Finance had the auditor raised any other issues? Lynn replied no.

Thanks should be conveyed to Mike Rickson from the AGM for the modest cost to MThNZ over the past year. (Administrator to arrange)

Registration Board members were still not taking their fees. Risk to people not taking fees – does not reflect actual costs and helps with setting realistic registration fees at a future date. At the moment registration fees off-set the non-members.

Thanks should be conveyed to individual Registration Board members from the AGM for helping to maintain the professionalism of the music therapy profession (Administrator to arrange).

Linda Wilson moved that the Honorary Auditor be appointed for a further term. Morva Croxson seconded. Carried.

Heather moved that all reports as tabled be accepted. Megan Spragg seconded for Finance. Carried.

**10. Remits** – no remits were received.

**11. General Business** – no general business items had been received but the Chair asked members present if there were any issues they wished to raise.

Daphne Rickson signaled the Kaumatua vacancy. (Heather to raise with Council)

Morva Croxson flagged the changing work of the administrator role needs to be looked at through an updated role description & title and the financial implications of that.

Kathryn Stevenson raised the location of the AGM in non-Conference years. It was explained that cost was the main factor why the meetings were held in Wellington, and RMTh are encouraged to link in PD around an AGM. Video conferencing main centres for members to link in if there were remits could be looked at in the future, but not if there were no remits. President Daphne Rickson said the AGM was not the place for debating general issues. Most of the debate should take place in Council and ETPP. Council, ETPP and the RMTh welcomed any issues from members at all times.

Chair Heather Fletcher thanked everyone present for their attendance and contributions.

The meeting was closed at 4:30pm.