

**MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES**

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

1. MEETING OPENED: 6.05 pm

Kaurna Acknowledgment.

I would like to acknowledge that we meet today on the traditional lands of the Kaurna people and that we respect their spiritual relationship with their country. We acknowledge the Kaurna people as the custodians of the Adelaide region. We respect and value their past, present and emerging connection to this land and their cultural beliefs.

2. PRESENT: Alan Turner. John Callisto. Mark Barton. Gordon Coulson. Frank Lang. Peter McMillan. Greg Blanch. Brenton Hay. Penny Hay.

3. APOLOGIES:

Paul Jankovic. Peter Nixon. Brian Holthouse. Brett Spilsbury. Sam Moody.

PROXIES:

Harvey Duff. Peter Matzic. Patrick Brislan. Ryszard Pusz. John Woodards.

4. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

5.1 Confirmation of the previous minutes for the AGM on Wednesday December 6th, 2023

MOTION: "That the minutes of the meeting held on December 2023 be accepted."

Moved: Frank Lang
Second: Mark Barton.
All Carried

5. BUSINESS ARISING:

5.1 PRESIDENTS REPORT:

MUA President's Report 2024 AGM

2024 has been a challenging year with a number of notable changes to the Adelaide Branch of the MUA.

The passing of union stalwarts Bob Guy, Trustee and Committee member for over 50 years, and Dave Pearse, Committee member for over a decade, were sadly noted.

Both were true believers in the Union cause and did their utmost to further its existence and to promote its values to the musicians and music industry of South Australia. The more sudden departure of Dave left the committee without a quorum, the required number of voting members to legally pass motions and govern the Union business in a democratic and inclusive way.

Therefore, following the normal electoral cycle, another election had to be held and this brought onto the committee two new members, Peter McMillan and Mark Barton. It's great to have them on board.

**MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES**

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

I would like to thank Secretary/Treasurer John Callisto for all of his hard work and enthusiasm over the last 12 months, efficiently driving the Union forward and seeking to capitalise on whatever opportunities may arise to promote and improve us.

There has been increased awareness across the media and in government, both Federally and in South Australia, of the challenges and difficulties facing musicians, promoters and venue operators.

I hope that this greater understanding of the seriousness of the current post covid situation can be translated into better support and assistance to the Arts and in particular Musicians.

Wishing all members, a great year in 2025.

Alan Turner.

5.2 SECRETERY/TREASURER REPORT AS FOLLOWS:

MUA Secretary/Treasurer Report 2024 AGM

On behalf of the Adelaide branch committee of the MUA, I welcome everyone here tonight for the 2024 Annual General Meeting.

As part of my report, I would like to briefly inform members of the major changes that have occurred since our last AGM and recap on some decisions and initiatives that the committee has implement over the year.

1/ Changes

As members are aware in 2024 the MUA has had 3 elections.

Stage 1

This was completed in June, and we were successful in achieving a quorum with all the existing committee members re-elected. Alan nominated for President, and I was able to nominate for the Secretary/Treasurer role since acting in the role since January 2024.

Stage 2

Elections were for Federal nominations in the federal office we have the following officials:

Federal President Alan Turner

Federal Vice President Glen Price

Federal Secretary Peter Davidson

Federal Treasurer John Callisto

Stage 3

The committee was very saddened by the sudden passing of our long serving committee member and trustee David Pearse.

This prompted another election by the AEC, and after the completion of stage 3 elections, I am pleased to welcome our new committee members Peter McMillan and Mark Barton.

MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

2/Members and Recruitment

One of my main concerns, which I am hoping to continue with in my work, is union membership. This has also been an ongoing concern expressed by the committee.

The goal on my behalf is to return the Union to a strong viable, profitable business.

Some directional changes will need to be implemented by the committee in 2025. I believe the Union essentially needs to address the future needs of members, old and new, in the coming year.

I am pleased to say, there has been an increase in our membership in Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart. However, the passing of some Adelaide members and writing off of a few members with large outstanding amounts has lowered the numbers in our branch.

The committee has been strongly promoting the Union as a valuable assistance for not only musicians but also for many new performers entering the profession, as well as instrumentalists teaching in the private and independent school sector to supplement their income. Some musicians are now recently deciding to stay in Adelaide, rather than to relocate.

The office receives call and emails regarding details on the following:

- *Insurance this includes (public liability, Instruments, Income protection.*
- *Contact details and changes*
- *Unpaid performances*
- *Royalty's*
- *Pay rate and guide for performances and teaching.*
- *Sale of instruments and music*
- *Grant applications*
- *Legal advice regarding contracts*

When asked are they members, most say no. This indicates that there is a call for our services.

I continue to have a strong commitment to help music teachers, and I believe we are the best union to support them. This has been proven by calls from music educators around Australia including music coordinators and music leaders wanting to know about conditions, payment, contracts, pay rates for school music performances and music tuition.

As stated in the previous AGM:

*"Many musicians rely on teaching as a supplement for everyday living however over the years it has been increasing difficult to earn an acceptable wage performing on your chosen specialised instrument.
There is no other union that we believe can help Instrumental Teachers in South Australia for advice and support.*

3/MUA Website

The MUA Website still needs work and lacks any punch to meet our new targeted member base. There continue to be changes thru DAD design and this will be ongoing as I work with the web designer to fine tune the site, until we have a professional, modern looking profile online that we can be proud of and will meet our members' needs. There is also new information regarding the financial report, Fair Work submissions and new contact numbers if needed. The website has been successful in generating more business in the Imports division.

**MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES**

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

4/Federal Branch

In my new role as Imports Officer, I would like to inform the members that the import visa applications have increased by 30% from the middle of this year. This has been a big boost for the Union's bottom line. In collaboration with the Federal Executive Team, we have raised the fee to \$143.00 inc. gst per endorsement. Over 10 musicians touring fee is now \$220.00 inc. gst. This will be increased again next year. Many agents, entertainment consultants and immigration lawyers have returned to the MUA for visa endorsements, due to the rapid response from the Imports office to endorse the incoming musicians as well as the easy contact with myself by mobile or email.

5/UNION PROFILE

I am very pleased to inform members that due to consistent communication and dealings with Fair Work, SA Unions and State politicians and the ACTU, the MUA is now a recognised union, still in existence in Australia and there continues to be positive dialogue with all of these organisations.

With SA unions there have been 2 round table meetings with the Premier Peter Malinuskas and the Honourable Kyam Maher MLC as recently as November 7 at parliament house. This will be a routine meeting with the SA Premier and SA Unions officials.

6/FINANCIAL REPORT

Briefly on the Financials:

The Audit report identified a small loss compared to the previous years and I hope to continue to improve this result for our members so we can allocate future profits to be used to recruit new members and improve our business practices. As discussed with Auditors, *all business as usual*, current continuation of finances means that the MUA will be in the Red for next year's financial Audit.

5/ADELAIDE BRANCH COMMITTEE

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Alan Turner (MUA President) and the Adelaide Branch Committee members for their diligence in attendance the monthly committee meetings throughout the year.

This has been a very challenging last 5 months with previously mentioned duty's inc.

- *Elections,*
- *Fair work reporting*
- *Round the table meetings with the Premier.*
- *Federal trip to Tasmania by Alan and myself.*
- *Attendance at Fair Work Commission seminar.*
- *Audit meetings and completing financial documents.*
- *ALESA seminars on changes to employment for contractors (closing the loopholes)*
- *And online Governance training thru the ACTU*

7/THE FUTURE FOR MUA.

Now that the Audit has been completed, entailing a steady couple of months of learning and completion of the handover phase, we need to start looking to the future for the MUA.

The main issues I see are the following:

- 1/ *Recruit new members, through advertising and awareness of the MUA to Musicians and Music teachers.*
- 2/ *Collecting outstanding members fees and updating our records to truly indicate actual numbers.*
- 3/ *Improve the way we do business by faster response times to member's needs and enquiries.*

**MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES**

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

4/Improve our Security in relation to cyber-attacks, which are a concern for many businesses.

5/An improvement in profits for the MUA.

7/Consistent communications with our State and Federal members.

TO CONCLUDE MY REPORT for the 2024 AGM,

I look forward to serving the MUA to the best of my ability in the coming year with assistance and support from the committee.

I believe we can rejuvenate this Union to a new level and better serve our members and represent a more diverse group of artists, musicians, music educators and performers, as well as becoming an integral part of the entertainment industry.

I wish to thank you for coming tonight, wishing you a Safe Festive season and look forward to working with the Adelaide and Federal committees in 2025.

Regards

John Callisto

MUA Adelaide Branch Secretary/Treasurer

MUA Federal Treasurer

6. CORRESPONDENCE:

6.1 Fair Work Commission. Letter of acknowledgment of Financial report year ending 2024- FR2024/126 accepted by FWC.

The members were informed that the auditors were very content with the final report as was the COM. Also, the FWC confirmation letter stated that a Detailed financial report would be needed for 2024 to 2025 audit. John spoke to the auditors (Ascencio Accountants) and they informed the MUA that all records to date have been well documented and should be fine for next year.

6.2 Deed of termination and release from PPCA Performers Trust Foundation.

The committee was informed that the Secretary of the MUA have signed the deed and there was no more money in trust for grants from PPCA. The Adelaide branch and the Federal office will need to establish a new grant programme thru MUA only and available to MUA members only. Hopefully this will help increase membership numbers as well as service our new and younger members.

6.3 Adelaide Office.

The members were informed that the lease for the MUA office situated on King William street Unley was due in November 2025. Under the FW rules a registered organisation has to have an office or resident postal address. John has started looking for new office accommodation and has found 3 sites suitable with new facility's, boardroom, parking, functioning kitchen and car parking at a cheaper price. At the moment McGees will be increasing the rent and we have lost a reception area, carpark and boardroom. John will continue to seek possible options for the MUA offices.

**MUSICIANS' UNION OF AUSTRALIA ADELAIDE BRANCH
U4 23A KING WILLIAM RD UNLEY
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
The ALMA TAVERN NORWOOD
MINUTES**

Wednesday December 11, 2024. 6.00 pm.

7. FINANCE REPORT:

MOTION: That the 2023-2024 Financial Report be accepted as presented.

**Moved: Mark Barton
Second: Peter McMillan
All Carried**

8. MEMBERSHIP REPORT:

Members: Full: 22
Pensioner: 3
Student: 1
Unemployed: 3
Hon: 18
LSHM: 67

Total: 114

MOTION: That the membership report be accepted as presented.

**Moved: Brenton Hay
Second: Frank Lang
All Carried**

9. AOB BUSINESS:

Mark Barton mentioned to lift profile by advertising in the media. The lift of the Union profile will be a challenge and the Adelaide branch committee to discuss and find new initiatives to peruse in 2025.

Brenton asked re-committee to look at the opportunity to contact TAFE to talk to music students re the UNION. John informed the meeting that he has contacted the lectures at TAFE and will be constructing a presentation to use for schools and TAFE. John will be actively communicating with as many persons as possible to make appointments as possible and then present to younger musicians.

Brenton mentioned that many musicians used in many festivals and celebrations such as the Christmas carols were utilizing musos from outside of Adelaide. Brenton as others at the meeting agreed that they did not recognize many performers and the conclusion that they were coming into Adelaide from interstate. Another challenge for the Adelaide branch committee to lobby on behalf of the capable Adelaide members that can perform at these local events.

John Informed the AGM attendees, that since the Financial report completed by MUA Auditors and that the COM meetings will be completed by October It will be convenient for the 2025 AGM to be held in November to avoid the difficulty in booking a venue for the AGM so close to the Xmas season.

10. DATE OF AGM 2025: Wednesday November 26. 2025

11. MEETING CLOSED: 6.45 pm

Signed:



Dated: 17/12/24