

Editorial

It's great to see another journal full of interesting news from around the country and updates on what is in store for those of us who are going to attend the World Harp Congress in Sydney in 2014. It is with much pleasure (and huge amounts of relief) that I welcome Pat Chapman onto the NZHS journal team. Please continue to send articles and events to anna.d@xtra.co.nz and we will sync relevant information with the website and Facebook page as we can.

We're looking for a willing volunteer who wouldn't mind scanning the pages of our prehistoric journals (the ones that pre date our use of pdfs) for online storage. Please get in touch with one of the committee if you think you can help out with this.

– Anna Dunwoodie

Auckland's First Harp Orchestra



The twenty-five founding members of the Auckland Harp Orchestra met for the first rehearsal on 7 June, ‘whipping’ through three tunes, known to many from *Harpenz*, and sight reading a ‘new’ piece at an alarming rate. Such was the enthusiasm of the gathering!!

Due to everyone's busy lives, it was decided to rehearse only for an hour once a month (and a little more frequently prior to our November 30th concert), so it was pleasing to hear several comments from members ...”Wow, was that really an hour?”...”it felt like we played for only ten minutes” ... “that went far too quickly” ... from harpists of all ages and abilities.

Any harpist, at any level, is most welcome to join us – but must be warned that the AHO rehearsal

is a time to rehearse as an ensemble, *not* to learn the music (you do that at home!) And that we don't have a full-time conductor, but rather a harpist who yells out instructions “...stop...play from rehearsal mark B... and again ... one more time ...” from behind her harp. It's going to be a exciting challenge for all of us!