



**Artsound Incorporated**  
**ACN 083 850 739**

# **2016 Annual Report**

ArtSound Inc  
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ArtSound is supported by grants from



## **Introduction**

This report from the ArtSound Board of Management covers the 2016 calendar year, and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and auditor's report.

It is ArtSound's first calendar year reporting, and brings us into line with the reporting requirements of our major ACT funding body, artsACT.

There is some reference to activities in the July-December 2015 period. The financial and other activities of ArtSound for that period were discussed in some detail at a Special General Meeting held in June 2016, the minutes of which are tabled for confirmation at the 2017 Annual General Meeting along with those of the previous AGM in late 2015.

## President's report: A Year of Transition

2016 was a year of significant change at ArtSound; we standardised our membership year, aligned our reporting period to that of our major funding agency, artsACT, and developed a new model for our major end-of-year membership and donation drive.

The Board dealt with a vast array of issues in 2016. Some of these were:

- Strategic planning
- Succession planning
- Partnerships and sponsorships
- Preparing funding submissions and acquittals
- Investment and emergency spending on technology
- Major changes to banking and accounting arrangements
- Programming policy
- Disciplinary matters
- Establishment of a regular members' e-newsletter
- Approval of various fundraising events

During the year, we saw off, at least for the foreseeable future, the so-called Manuka Green proposal which threatened to turn the Manuka Oval precinct into a major construction site. We were regularly involved in briefings, meetings and discussion about the Kingston Arts Precinct and our potential inclusion in it. We were also briefed on the full-scale introduction of digital radio to Canberra in 2017. Planning for a move to Kingston is an opportunity to review, update and modernise our station, to reflect a move to digital radio and to embrace and sustain our future.

Succession planning and renewal is important for any organisation, and the Board took the important step of recruiting our inaugural Director, Jen Seyderhelm. Ms Seyderhelm leads our small and dedicated team of staff and contractors – and our much larger band of volunteers. We are indeed fortunate to have a leader with extensive experience in commercial and community radio, as well as a strong background in the arts and retail.

For organisations with limited resources, there is often competition between the desire for change and 'business as usual' – the need to keep things chugging along. There is a choice to be made between taking calculated risks on the path to the future and saying that the future is so uncertain that we should just concentrate on what we have now.

The key is to find a balance – respecting and honouring the past, whilst embracing the future. We live in an era of profound change in the media landscape and the way in which content is delivered. The temptation to just stick with what we know and what we have is understandable but unsustainable. It behooves us to go boldly forward.

Another aspect of this is defining what we mean by community radio. We have a community of presenters and other volunteers devoted to broadcasting, but those who fund and support us use the word in a different sense: they expect that we will serve the region's community of artists and musicians.

These two meanings of 'community' are not mutually exclusive of course, but it's always worth considering what we are doing and why we are doing it.

In thanking my fellow Board members, staff, contractors and volunteers for their dedication and hard work, I pay tribute to those who are leaving the Board. I have greatly valued your friendship, support and wise counsel. Thank you again.

Richard Scherer  
President

## Treasurer's Report

In August 2015, the ArtSound constitution was amended to align our financial year with the calendar year reporting practice of most ACT arts organisations. 2016 was the first full calendar year reporting period following that change.

The \$2027 surplus for the year was an improvement on the deficit of \$9135 for the six months to 31 December 2015. Our Current Ratio of 2.64:1 (that is, for every dollar of current liabilities ArtSound has \$2.64 of liquid assets) compares more than favourably with artsACT's benchmark of 2:1 for Key Arts Organisations. Current Assets were \$100,265, an improvement on the \$87,485 at the end of 2015. Earned income was just under 49% of total income for the year.

Significantly, this year our auditor has given an unqualified opinion on the financial statements—this was an important achievement. Because the statements for the previous three years had been qualified, artsACT advised that our ACT Arts Fund (Program Organisation) grants and, consequently, our accommodation now in the Manuka Arts Centre and in future in the Kingston Arts Precinct, might be jeopardised. We will need to ensure the auditor does not find reason to qualify our financial statements in future years.

In early 2016, we engaged Into Tomorrow Pty Ltd to provide bookkeeping and accounting services following the retirement of bookkeeper Leonie Smith and consultant Mike Champion. We thank them for their long and valuable service to ArtSound. Peter Bayliss, who is a qualified accountant, has worked with us to improve management reporting, simplify the chart of accounts, and improve accounting systems (including the end of July 2016 change from MYOB to Xero) and payment processing, including online applications such as POLI Payments.

It has been difficult to make direct comparisons between the 2016 financial result and the combined results for 2015 (involving analysis of the 2014–15 statements to estimate figures for the period 1 January to 30 June 2015 to add to the firm figures for the second half of 2015). Nevertheless, it appears that operating income (including in particular Arts Partnerships, Audio Services, Donations and Commercial Sponsorships) was down around \$55,000 over the previous 12 months. This follows the trend in recent years and represents a significant challenge if ArtSound is to continue its work for the community of Canberra.

The need for an improved focus in these areas and better management processes was the impetus for the board's decision late in 2016 to appoint our new Director, Jen Seyderhelm. The Director has commenced initiatives to address these issues and others—including the challenge of the proposed move to the Kingston Arts Precinct—critical to our future.

Lastly, I want to acknowledge the tireless devotion to ArtSound of our President Richard Scherer. Without his work the gains we have made in recent years would not have been possible.

David Chalker  
Treasurer

## Director's report

I was employed in November 2016 as Director of ArtSound FM. My role involves managing resources, building and maintaining relationships, marketing and promotion, coordination and acquittal of grant applications and, for my mind the best part, implementing new projects and policies. Part of my role also includes participation in the planning and consultation phase of the Kingston Arts Precinct process.

2016 was a period of significant change at ArtSound FM with the onus on us to redefine ourselves as authentic arts organisation.

We are the arts radio station most involved with recording, producing and broadcasting shows, concerts and interviews with Canberra and district artists and writers. In 2016, we conducted several outside broadcasts, including at large venues such as the National Folk Festival and Floriade. ArtSound broadcasts programs for film, theatre, literary and artistic audiences specifically as well as general music programs catering to our world, classical, folk, blues and jazz guidelines (an estimated 100K plus volunteer hours' worth!).

Our recording studio fosters new local artists as well as government organisations (arts and otherwise) audio requirements. ArtSound FM also provides audio archiving and transfer services to both individuals and large groups who require preservation of rare and/or precious audio.

Our six Arts Diaries runs every day with information about current events on in the ACT and surrounds arts worlds. We ran an Introduction to Broadcasting course, an open day and two book and music fairs where we fundraised and provided entertainment to members and potential members.

ArtSound FM records concerts on average weekly with some events such as the NFF (ongoing replays of concerts feature in the weekly program *At the National*) and the Canberra International Music Festival, meaning the April/May months are particularly labour intensive. *Concert Hall* and *Friday Night Live*, and replays of other concerts at venues such as the God's Café and Wesley Music Centre, are popular, with artists being offered copies of their concerts.

With the immense support of volunteer Annabel Wheeler, ArtSound continues to be involved in the Fine Music Network Young Virtuoso Award with other classical music stations across Australia. This significant prize encourages youths and young adults to foster a love of classical radio.

During 2016 *Artcetera*, our weekly arts, culture and lifestyle program, had regular contributions and hundreds of interviews with arts partners, government and other arts organisations and arts individuals. The program's hour-long format gives voice to regional creative and arts industries, large and small; building audiences for both. Among the organisations and artists represented in hundreds of interviews over the year were Belconnen and Tuggeranong Arts Centres, the National Gallery of

Australia, Canberra Museum and Gallery, Palace Electric Film Festivals, M16 Artspace, PhotoAccess and ANCA Gallery.

Each week ArtSound FM member and volunteers Bill Stephens and Len Power provide locally performed theatre interview and reviews respectively for the station. Bill is a respected member of the ACT theatre community having established his reputation as Artistic Director of the School of Arts Café Queanbeyan, The Canberra Festival and the Canberra Philharmonic Society. Bill received a well-deserved OAM on Australia Day 2017.

Len is a theatre reviewer for *City News* and Canberra Critics Circle as well as ArtSound FM. Both interviews and reviews have been incorporated into a 30-minute theatre program called *Dress Circle* (hosted by me) which began in January 2017 and better utilised these two theatre related threads.

There is no area of the arts that we have not found a way to get involved with. ArtSound FM has already further broadened our horizons into spoken word arts programs as for a literary and theatrical audience. We are exceptionally proud of the quality and versatility of these programs and commit to best represent the thriving arts community in the ACT and surrounds in 2017.

Jen Seyderhelm  
Director

## **Technology Report**

### **Transmission**

Our service availability was estimated at around 99.8% for the reporting period. The major downtime was several hours in May 2015 due to a cable installation fault on commercial supplier's transmission tower which was beyond our immediate control. This fault, which also affected CMS Radio, required us to arrange temporary links and hire a rigger to climb the mast. A generator failure in October 2015, also outside our control, resulted in an extended outage which affected mainly our early morning programming.

Due to unusually severe thunderstorms, various equipment at our transmitter site was also severely damaged, requiring us to operate for an extended period on a standby transmitter whilst repairs were arranged. ArtSound took steps to mitigate such damage with the acquisition of a grant from the Community Broadcasting foundation that enabled us to purchase some advanced power filtering/surge protection equipment. However, as power instability and lightning issues continue to affect the Poppet Hill site, improving earthing and lightning protection at the site will be pursued with the site operator as a prudent risk minimisation measure.

Some minor interruptions to normal programming were experienced due to planned and unplanned power failures at the studio but transmissions were maintained with backup generator facilities and streaming services are now maintained separately from FM transmissions.

ArtSound places heavy reliance on computers for digital audio production and administrative work. Many hours have been spent on improving the network and systematically upgrading PCs which were obsolete. Most of the improvements will be evident in the new year as new custom-built computers purchased with member's donated funds come on line.

In 2016, I was successful in securing a Community Broadcasting Foundation grant for \$10,989 on behalf of the station to upgrade ArtSound FM's digital program link reliability and flexibility. Advanced audio codecs, which will be installed following extensive testing, will also facilitate broadcast quality voice reports from mobile phones and enhance our bi-directional OB capabilities.

There remains an imperative to expand and upgrade our broadcast facilities in the light of future program demands and the dependence the station's operations have on these for reliable day-to-day operations.

### **Broadcast Operations Support**

I have continued to take responsibility for programming and scheduling "The Sound Space", "After Hours" and time-shifting and re-broadcast of all satellite and internet delivered programs (up to 13 hours a day). About one hour's maintenance of the automation system and backup databases is required each week, some of which is done offsite via remote desktop access.

Technical support was provided for outside broadcasts and recording assignments associated with the National Folk Festival, Young Virtuoso of the Year Competition and Open Day fundraisers.

### *Senior Memories Service Support*

I have continued to support the project through technical planning and automated program support. Recent funding from the ACT Government will facilitate major expansion of live and pre-recorded program segments via long overdue upgrades of our automation software. Candidate software which has been trialled and evaluated over a period of two years will be “burnt in” with an initial testing/training phase run on the Senior Memories service. It is expected to better support APRA reporting requirements, sponsorship and program scheduling, internet streaming, website integration and social media on Senior Memories as well as ArtSound, and a possible future ArtSound Digital.

While the number of ACT subscribers has diminished, we have successfully negotiated several new sites in Griffith NSW because of funding support from Rural Funds Management. Two of three sites are expected to be operational at the time of writing. The organisation has also undertaken to assist with fundraising for the project.

### **Audio Services**

ArtSound’s Audio Services division manages our recording studio and undertakes audio archiving and production work including CD recording and mastering for a wide range of users. These capabilities continue to provide predictable funding income with which to support our on-air broadcasting.

Our recording studio continues to be highly sought after by musicians, artists and prestigious clients. This year we completed a range of large assignments including full album productions for Victorian-based duo *The Awesome* and Canberra singer/songwriter Dan Fernandes. Many clients have hired the studio for voice recordings including an ongoing project with the Australian Bureau of Statistics and international agency RGA who produced the voice talent via a conference link coordinating and recording from our studio control room.

Audio archiving work continues to be a significant form of income for ArtSound. Recent work has included completion of a contract for the Australian War Memorial and ongoing work for ArchiveIT who currently hire our Studio 4 facilities - an agreement organised by Tony Hunter.

Audio Services recently specified, built, installed & configured a new digital audio workstation. This was a timely upgrade, replacing old equipment and software that had started to show minor signs of instability early this year, after running continuously for 12 years without fault. Testing of the new setup, which will involve a steep software learning curve, is currently in progress and seems set to put ArtSound Recording Studios at the cutting edge of technology.

## **Station Relocation**

Extensive documentation about our future studio and office design specifications were provided at short notice to ArtsACT for incorporation in the Kingston Foreshore architect's brief.

Previous experience underscores the importance of qualified ArtSound personnel being involved in the detailed building planning/design phase, costing, oversight and quality control of fit out and technical integration. Early costing and design work will need to address issues such as acoustic and sound isolation, electrical and mechanical services, air and power conditioning, network cabling, radio link licensing and studio fit out, much of which will require external commercial advice. None of this is trivial in nature, and will require hundreds of hours of professional planning and design work, including the logistics of the move itself - all of which have yet to be costed and funded.

I recommend that the incoming Board give this maximum and urgent attention to ensure our complex needs are met adequately and that sufficient funds and other resources will be available in a timely manner to ensure the project's feasibility. It is in the best interests of ArtSound that any proposed move ensures that ArtSound's capability to grow and prosper over the next 10 years is not hindered by space or operational limitations that might result from any non-negotiable move away from the prestigious custom-built site we enjoy today.

## **Digital Audio Broadcasting**

ArtSound has been invited by the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia to join with other stations in Canberra to implement digital audio broadcasting (DAB), expected to take place in the latter part of 2017. Establishment of DAB is expected to be funded almost entirely by the Federal Government and will require some complex administrative and legal agreements to be put in place to share the available digital bandwidth.

## **Miscellaneous**

In late 2015, I was selected as a finalist in the national CBAA awards for best technical contribution to a community broadcasting station.

In 2016, I attended Technorama, the annual conference of community broadcasting technologists at Campbelltown NSW in 2016, at my own expense.

Chris Deacon OAM, BSc (Hons)  
Manager Technology

## **Governance**

### *Board composition*

As a result of constitutional amendments in August 2015, the size of the ArtSound Board was reduced from 12 members to a maximum of 10.

At the last Annual General Meeting, held in 2015, Barbara Campbell, David Chalker, Mike Kennedy, Richard Scherer and Emeritus Professor Deane Terrell AO were declared elected to the Board. As Board members continue until the second AGM after their election, their nominal terms continue until the 2018 AGM.

Ms Campbell resigned from the Board during 2016, and there are therefore six positions to be filled at this AGM, with one of the successful candidates to serve until the 2018 AGM, and the remainder until 2019.

From 2016, as a result of other constitutional changes, ArtSound's reporting period is now January to December rather than July to June. Consequently, there was transitional 18-month governance period, from July 2015 to December 2016.

Because there was no Annual General Meeting required or held in 2016, a Special General Meeting was held in June 2016 to receive audited financial statements for the July to December 2015 period.

### *Board meetings during 2016*

The Board is required to meet formally at least six times a year, and as required to address additional strategic matters. The Board met formally on nine occasions during 2016 and also held a one-day planning session in February 2016.

One or more staff members and/or contractors attended most of the formal Board meetings to present reports.

Within its obligations as a member-based incorporated association, the Board encourages members with professional experience in areas such as the law to stand for office. It also invites people with specialist skills to be Board advisers. Five members of the Board were regular volunteer presenters. Women made up at least 40 per cent of the Board membership during 2016.

Conflict of interest is a standing item on Board agendas, and members are required to disclose any conflicts of interest, or potential conflicts of interest, at the start of each meeting, and declare any conflicts which arise during the course of Board business.

Board members are prohibited under the ArtSound constitution from receiving remuneration (apart from reimbursement of actual expenses approved by the Board).

The Board has sub-committees responsible for advising it on operational matters within policies established by the Board. Active committees during 2016 included the Program Committee, Senior Memories Committee and Training Committee.

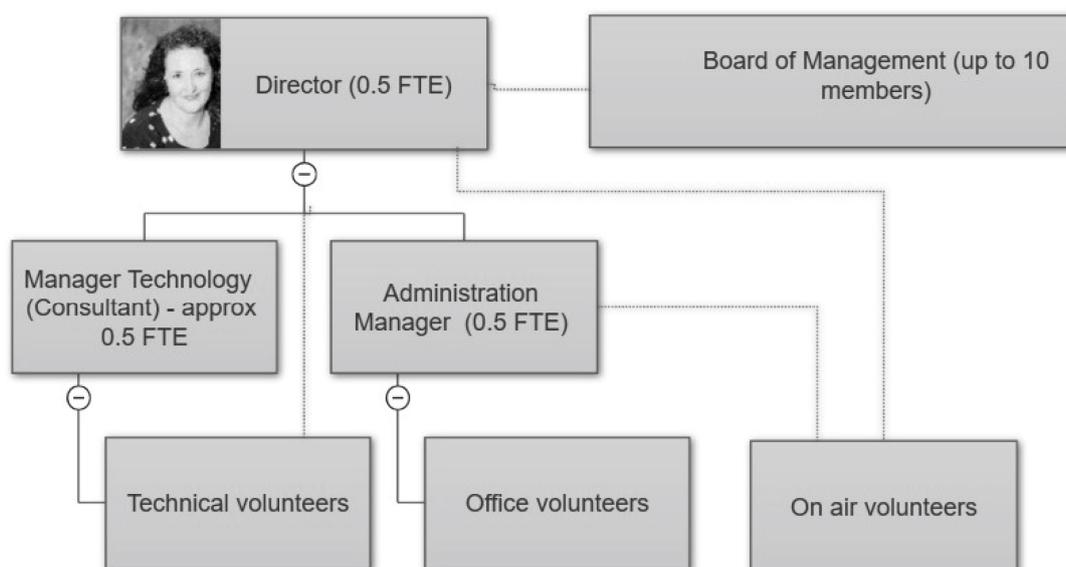
For much of 2016, Board member Gabriela Cabral undertook, on a voluntary basis, the role of Board Financial Delegate, to liaise between the Board, staff and contractors. This role was previously performed during 2015, also on a voluntary basis, by Jeannie McLellan, who resigned from the Board early in 2016.

### *Appointment of Director*

Towards the end of 2016, the Board recruited ArtSound’s first Director, responsible to the Board for the overall management and administration of staff and contractors.

Ms Jennifer Seyderhelm is currently employed for 20 hours a week. Ms Seyderhelm has extensive experience in the performing arts, commercial and community radio, and has management and supervisory experience in other industries.

The new staffing structure is shown in the following diagram.



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### **Committees**

In 2016, the following Committees were active in providing oversight specific aspects of the association’s operations and were either chaired by a member or delegate of the Board:

- Executive committee (President, Treasurer and Secretary)
- Program Committee (Chaired by Paul Conn)
- Training Committee (Chaired by Gabriela Cabral)
- ROCO Committee (Chaired by Maria Greene)
- Senior Memories Committee (Chaired by Deane Terrell)

## Communication with members

### New website

A new artsound.fm website went live in August 2106. The site is designed to be mobile-friendly and to always display current program information. It includes:

- An online program guide, with the ability to display details of individual episodes of programs as well as generic program information
- Home page display of local arts programs and those based on local concert recordings
- Listing of special events and programs
- e-commerce facility for membership and other payments
- Streaming player tested with multiple browsers, tablets and mobile phone

Members can also access documents such as annual reports and corporate plans, as well as confirmed Board and general meeting minutes. Developments to be introduced during 2017 include an enhanced password-protected member-only section.

### Member newsletters

A total of 13 newsletters and notifications were emailed to members during the year. This was in addition to the presenters' newsletter *Pink Peril* and weekly rostering emails to presenters.

Most newsletters were sent using the Mailchimp bulk email service. Typically, between 50 and 60 per cent of members opened their emails. Members are added to this list when they join, but any member may opt out of future communications from this list,

Official communications, such as formal notification of meetings, are sent to all financial members using the Salesforce membership database.

The following newsletters and other emails were sent to members during the year

- **Member newsletter 2 March:** Epicurean delights event 19 March, June Book and Music Fair, proposed Manuka Oval redevelopment, Board membership changes, Staffing changes (appointment of new bookkeeper), artsACT and Community Services Funding
- **Reminder newsletter 16 March:** Closing of bookings for Epicurean event, Invitation to members-only Book and Music Fair preview, Saturday 18 June
- **Member newsletter 28 May:** Special General Meeting – 21 June 2016, Winter Solstice Book and Music Fair – Saturday 18 and Sunday 19 June at the Manuka Arts Centre, recent transmission outages, ArtSound welcomes newly-minted presenters, new bookkeeper, end of financial year donations, Kingston Arts Precinct, **your** membership
- **Book and music fair reminder, 17 June:** Reminder about Book and Music Fair on 18/19 June, Reminder about SGM on 21 June
- **5 June:** – Notice of Special General Meeting for 21 June 2016

- **20 June**– Notice of amended date for SGM of 28 June 2016
- **27 June:** – Notice of SGM, attaching financial statements for July-December 2015
- **Priority bookings for Spring Banquet, 30 August:** Invited priority bookings for Spring Banquet at The Hungry Buddha in Curtin on Thursday 29 September
- **Member newsletter 17 September:** Online bookings for Spring Banquet on Thursday 29 September, Seeking donations for our next Book and Music Fair on 6 November, Membership renewal time, including members’ week information, Listener survey – invitation to take part in forthcoming survey, Updated website now online, Kingston Arts Precinct – working to ensure adequate funding
- **Special Member newsletter 28 September:** Listener survey URL, Last call for Hungry Buddha dinner, Members' week and renewal time - theme of this year's Members' Week, from 31 October to 6 November, is *Artsound: We're on Your Wavelength*, Job opportunity - Director of ArtSound - applications open until 21 October 2016
- **Members’ week is coming, 16 October:** Members' Week from 31 October to 6 November, Postcards from Manuka Beach campaign, Open Day and Book and Music Fair Sunday 6 November with members’ preview sale on Saturday 5 November, Listener survey closing, Applications for Director position
- **Members’ week is here - 9 October:** Members week – renewal and donation reminder, Book and Music Fair - Members' Only preview, Open Studio day, Keep up with what's happening through the website
- **Members Newsletter December 2016 (24 December):** Festive season greetings, Our new Director, Artsound’s Long service and Good Citizen awards, The year ahead, including strategic planning project, and CBF grant applications

## Listener survey

An online survey of members and other listeners about their listening habits received 98 responses. These are available at <https://nl.surveymonkey.net/results/SM-5L63DZHN>

Weekday listening is in a standard radio consumption pattern, with spikes at breakfast and when coming home from work. Most listening is done at home, followed by in-car listening. Weekend listening numbers are lower than weekday listeners, but the audience listens more consistently across the day. Most listening is done on the main FM frequency.

## **Funding**

### **artsACT**

ArtSound appreciates the continued commitment of artsACT. In artsACT's 2015 funding round, ArtSound received program funding of \$70,000 for each of 2016 and 2017.

Our premises at the Manuka Arts Centre are owned by artsACT, and we operate under a sub-licence, the head licence being held by Photoaccess Inc. We pay no site rental, though the commercial value of the rent on the premises we occupy is estimated at some \$50,000 a year.

### **Community Broadcasting Foundation**

The Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF) offers partial reimbursement of the cost of rental and electricity charges for our transmission sites at Poppet Hill and Mt Taylor, and we successfully applied for both rounds of funding offered in 2016.

ArtSound successfully applied for an \$8,000 Planning Assistance Grant from the Community Broadcasting Foundation. The grant is to assist us with strategic planning in preparation for our move to the Kingston Arts Precinct, and has been used to engage a consultant, Steve Ahern.

Towards the end of 2016, the CBF announced that most of its grants would be consolidated into two categories – Development and Operations, and Content, with applications for the main round for each category open until late March or early April.

ArtSound has applied for significant funding under both categories for CBF's 2017-18 financial year. The outcome of our application should be known by early June.

### **Fundraising and special events**

ArtSound held two book and music fairs, in June and November, with members' previews on both occasions. Each event raised about \$5,000. Special thanks go to Peter Sullivan and his team, including Jim Mooney and Bert Whelan.

The November fair coincided with a major community event nearby which created parking problems and as a result, the 2017 Open Day and Book Fair associated with Members Week have been moved forward a week.

An Epicurean Delights event was held in March in response to discussions with long-time sponsor Bill Mason of Regional Wine and Beverage Merchants, and utilising wines bought on Bartercard from sponsor Jirra Wines. Particular thanks go to Judy Baker and Barbie Robinson for organising this event, and other members, including Chris Deacon, Tony Hunter, Stuart Warner and Andrew Blanckensee, who contributed their time, skills and talent to make the day a success. The event was very well received and netted about \$1,000. Most of the 60 or so attendees were non-presenter members or listeners.

A Spring Dinner at The Hungry Buddha in Curtin in September was attended by 50 people raised about \$2,500, using Bartercard credits. The event was managed by Barbie Robinson, with assistance from Judy Baker.

### **Members' week**

To reflect changes in our membership renewal dates from 2016, the name of our major membership renewal and donation drive changed from Radiothon to Members Week.

The common 31 October renewal date for members from 2016 has reduced the administrative burden of sending out renewal notices throughout the year. It also allowed us to offer incentives to all members renewing on or before their membership expiry date by entering them into all prize draws up to and including the major draw on the Open Day.

As in recent years, members and donors were actively encouraged to pay on line. This reduces the need for staff and volunteers to take payments over the phone and, provides greater security for members and donors by avoiding the need to store credit card details.

The leadup to Members 'Week was supported by a light-hearted suite of postcards using a 'Manuka Beach campaign', in which several ArtSound volunteers took part as models.

### **Fine Music Network Young Performers Award**

In 2016, ArtSound FM again participated in the national Fine Music Network Young Virtuoso of the Year Competition. The network includes 2MBS Sydney, 3MBS Melbourne, 4MBS Brisbane and 5MBS Adelaide.

The award included a \$10,000 prize for a young performer under the age of 25, or a young vocalist under the age of 30.

The ACT finals of the competition were held in the ArtSound recording studio, and broadcast live. ArtSound is grateful to the ANU School of Music and the Wesley Music Centre for its assistance in choosing an ACT representative and especially an anonymous donor who contributed \$1000 to help the winner, soprano, travel to the national final in Melbourne.

## Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our station, both on-air and the many off-air roles. In 2016, Artsound had about 100 regular volunteers, whose tasks included:

- Presenting live and recorded programs
- Supporting and presenting outside broadcasts
- Organising major fundraising events
- Answering listener enquiries about program content and station policies
- Providing office assistance and telephone support
- Maintaining the membership database
- Copywriting, reviewing and updating audio promotional and sponsorship messages
- Managing technical facilities
- Representing ArtSound as part of the media team and recording at the annual National Folk Festival and other venues
- Producing the volunteers e-newsletter *Pink Peril*
- Cataloguing and maintaining our music library
- Participating in committees
- Running training courses for new presenters and
- Special projects, including the Senior Memories audio streaming project

With an average of nearly 10 hours of live broadcasts per day, and several hours each week of locally-produced arts program, the number of volunteer hours is conservatively estimated at 15,000 per year.

Many of our volunteers have busy lives in other areas, and their availability for rostered ArtSound FM duties varies from daily to weekly, to once per month or on special events.

## Training

There were two formal training courses during the year.

The first, an Introduction to Broadcasting course, ran for five weeks in the first part of the year, and several participants went on to become regular presenters.

Later in the year, the Community Media Training Organisation ran a two-day Introduction to Outside Broadcasting course for four participants.

We thank the trainers, mentors, coordinators, office staff and volunteers who assisted with the courses.

## Arts Partners and sponsors

Through our arts partnerships program, we are positioning ourselves to be the go-to arts media organisation in Canberra. The following organisations were Arts Partners for part or all of 2016:

- Artists Society of Canberra
- Australian String Quartet
- Belconnen Arts Centre
- Beyond Q
- Canberra Brass
- Canberra Blues Society
- Canberra Irish Club
- Canberra Theatre Centre
- COZMO -Capital of Australia Mandolinist
- Music for Canberra
- Queanbeyan Players
- SCUNA
- Tuggeranong Arts Centre

### The following were commercial or contra sponsors during 2016

- ACT Government
- ACT Health
- Acoustic Piano Services
- Australian Chamber Orchestra
- Australian Festival of Chamber Music
- Australian Haydn Ensemble
- Australian Native Plant Society
- Australian Youth Orchestra
- Bartercard
- Canberra Symphony Orchestra\*
- Core Essentials
- CSG
- Duratone
- Gil Jones Barker
- Groove Warehouse
- Infinite Networks
- Jirra Wines
- Ki Acupuncture
- Music Seminars
- Ray White
- Security 1
- Store Ezy
- Tallong Enterprises
- Thredbo Blues Festival

*\*Second half of 2015 only*

## Key facts and figures

### Membership numbers as at 31 December 2016

At 31 December 2016, ArtSound had some 468 members, represented by 402 memberships. These included 66 family memberships covering two or more members.

### Board Members as at 31 December 2016

- Mr Richard Scherer President
- Ms Evana Ho Secretary
- Mr David Chalker Treasurer
- Ms Gabriela Cabral
- Ms Maria Greene
- Mr Mike Kennedy
- Ms Rebecca Scouller
- Emeritus Professor Deane Terrell AM

### ArtSound engaged the following staff and contractors during 2016

- Ms Jen Seyderhelm, Director, from November (20 hours per week)
- Mr Chris Deacon OAM, Manager, Technology (through services contract with Deacon Communications)
- Ms Judy Baker, Administrator (20 hours per week)
- Mr Peter Bayliss, bookkeeper/accountant (through services contract with Into Tomorrow)
- Mr Tony Hunter, Audio Engineer (hourly basis subject to incoming work)

Mr Bayliss was appointed following the resignation in the first quarter of the year of:

- Ms Leonie Smith, Accounts Clerk (approximately 20 hours per month) -
- Mr Mike Champion, Finance Officer (contractor, approximately 5 hours per month)

### We were also assisted by the following regular administration volunteers

- Pamela Allen
- Gabrielle Burns
- Judy Hayes
- Colleen Hills
- Ursula Reid

### Vale Paul Bromley and Dave Rees

Our presenter ranks were thinned by the deaths during 2016 of Paul Bromley, who will be remembered for his Music Box program, and Saturday Sounds stalwart, Dave Rees. ArtSound representatives attended the funerals of Paul and Dave and passed on our condolences to their families.