



Artsound Incorporated

ABN 29 083 850 739

2017 Annual Report

ArtSound Inc
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This report from the ArtSound Board of Management covers the 2017 calendar year, and should be read in conjunction with the financial statements and auditor's report.

ArtSound is supported by grants from



President's report

I recently came across the following:

It has been a difficult year for ArtSound: the estimates for income that were made this time last year proved over-optimistic, and two key staff resigned. Concurrently, the availability of volunteer support also declined.

The quote is from the 2010-11 Annual Report. Unfortunately, history has repeated.

2017 began with optimism and enthusiasm, with initiatives such as all-Australian programming for Australia Day, successful applications for the funding of new programs and a well-attended strategic planning workshop in early March.

One of the important roles for our then newly-appointed Director, Jen Seyderhelm, was to establish and re-establish partnerships and joint ventures with other arts organisations. She also organised, as a volunteer, two Introduction to Broadcasting courses. Several graduates of those courses furthered their involvement and commitment to Artsound by standing for Board positions.

In my view, however, the behavior which marked the Annual General Meeting in May brought the optimism and enthusiasm to an abrupt halt.

The consequences were dire. By July, both our paid staff members had left ArtSound, as had several office volunteers and Treasurer David Chalker. Board members found that rather than dealing with strategic issues, their time was taken up dealing with personality clashes, grievances and complaints. It was draining and exhausting; enthusiasm turned to frustration and, in a number of cases, to resignation.

The loss of our two staff members and some volunteers brought into sharp focus the need for succession planning. To fill some of the gap, the Board advertised in July for an administrative assistant to work two days a week.

We were most fortunate to have recruited Leith Dudfield who is both highly capable and adaptable, and whose role now includes bookkeeping. I also thank on your behalf Brian Leonard, a former staff member and treasurer, who helped show Leith the ropes when she started.

Another positive development in the second half of the year was a successful insurance claim for damage to the transmitter at the site which we share with two other community broadcasters, and a decision to order a replacement transmitter. Particular thanks are due to Board member Stuart Warner, and Manager Technology Chris Deacon and his team.

The Board also supported the formation of an Artsound Renewal Team to recommend terms of reference for Board sub-committees and recruit interested members to them. Details of the ART's work can be found on the members' area of the ArtSound website, and elsewhere in this report.

Some observations

As I am retiring from the Board, I hope you will indulge my making a few observations.

Last year I reported that 2016 had been a year of significant change, and posed the question of which community we were serving, and how we were serving it.

In recent times, I have taken the opportunity while on holiday to visit community stations as far flung as Wellington NZ and Perth, as well as meeting volunteers and staff from many stations at two Community Broadcasting Association of Australia conferences. Two things have struck me.

First, much of the enthusiasm and drive in community radio is coming from young people, particularly women. Community radio in Australia is now more than 40 years old, and while many of those who were there in the early years remain active and engaged, it is often in a mentorship or other voluntary role.

Second is the question of which tasks should be performed by volunteers and which need paid staff or consultants. The focus of many stations is increasingly on content and community engagement – both of which are priorities in our strategic plan. Some stations, large and small, now rely largely or solely on volunteers for technical support, and some employ presenters for some programs. At some stations, producers are involved in social media and the repackaging of content.

The future and a farewell

In most organisations, there is range of views about the best way to handle the future. Debate is healthy, as long as it is respectful and based on the merits of arguments rather than on personalities. As others have also observed, change at ArtSound has tended to be accepted or rejected on the basis of who proposes it rather than on its merits; as one former Board member has remarked, ‘everything is personalised’.

My hope is that the incoming Board and its sub-committees will encourage and embrace contributions and ideas, regardless of from where or whom they come.

I am particularly appreciative of the support I have received from my fellow Board members over the years, all of whom have donated their professional expertise and taken on significant governance responsibilities. I thank them and ArtSound’s staff, contractors and other volunteers on your behalf for their hard work and commitment.

After 10 years on the Board, and in the spirit of the renewal process, it’s time for me to practise what I preach and move on. I encourage others who have been at ArtSound for some time to also consider stepping back and giving others space to initiate change and new ideas.

Thanks and best wishes

Richard Scherer

Financial Report

As ArtSound had no Treasurer at the time of preparation of these accounts, the Board Executive, on behalf of the Board, has taken responsibility for this report.

The financial statements show a surplus of \$8,458. This compares with a surplus of \$2027 for 2016, our first full calendar year reporting period.

The cash surplus for 2017 is a result of an insurance payout of \$55,945 for a damaged transmitter. Purchase of a replacement has been authorised, but the money not yet expended.

There was a significant shortfall in budgeted income, particularly in the following areas:

- Arts partnerships
- Audio services
- Sponsorships
- CBF grants*
- Membership
- Archiving
- Training

This was partly offset by lower-than-budgeted expenditure, particularly in the following areas:

- Accounting and bookkeeping
- Consulting
- Insurance
- Wages and salaries
- Water and sewerage

The proposed 2018 Budget attached to this report has comparisons with previous years.

Into Tomorrow Pty Ltd provided bookkeeping and accounting services until August 2017 when, on the recommendation of interim Treasurer Margaret O'Shea, responsibility for the bookkeeping function was taken over by our Office Manager, Leith Dudfield, and paid as additional hours. The Board thanks both Into Tomorrow's principal, Peter Bayliss, and Leith for their work.

Devising an accounting structure which meets multiple requirements is not simple. Possible areas for improvement include the ability to more readily report income and expenditure to our various business lines such as broadcasting, Senior Memories and audio services, more transparent accounting arrangements of contras, and more regular updating of depreciation schedules.

Funding and strategic issues

artsACT

ArtSound received \$77,700 from artsACT for 2017, the second year of two-year program funding allocated in 2015 'to assist with the costs of ArtSound's arts development programs in 2016 and 2017'.

We were also successful in applying during 2017 for funding for 2018 only of \$72,114, pending a review by artsACT of its funding programs generally. The grant is 'to assist with the costs of ArtSound's local arts programs in 2018'.

We are required, both as part of our funding applications and as part of the annual acquittal in April each year, to submit an artistic program (which in our case includes local arts-related programs and concerts) and a budget related to the grant requested.

This includes staff overheads related to scheduling of local arts content, production costs, including studio overheads outside broadcasting costs related to production of local arts content, and marketing and promotion of arts programming.

Community Broadcasting Foundation

In March 2017, a team led by then Director Jen Seyderhelm was successful in applying for content grants of \$14,500 for two new programs – *Writing Aloud* and *Song Stories*. Funding was for the period July 2017 – June 2018. A pilot of *Writing Aloud* went to air in June, but with Ms Seyderhelm's departure from the station, production of the program fell into abeyance.

In accordance with the CBF's new funding procedures, we received half the funding (\$7,250) for the two programs, and have received an extension until 30 April for a progress report.

We also received CBF funding of \$21,000 for the period July 2017 to June 2018 towards our transmission costs. Half of this amount was received in 2017., and the remainder was paid in February 2018.

Kingston Arts Precinct

The Board continued to maintain a watching brief on the proposal to build an arts precinct near the Canberra Glassworks in Kingston.

In February 2017, the ACT Government announced that a consortium headed by developer Geocon had been selected as the preferred tenderer for development of the arts precinct.

ArtSound's President and then Director attended several meetings during the first half of the year with other arts organisations which are prospective tenants at Kingston. An important topic of discussion, yet to be resolved because of delays in negotiations between the consortium and the ACT Government, is a management model for the precinct.

In October, ArtSound's President and Vice President met with the Director of artsACT, Sam Tyler, in November at Ms Tyler's request, following comments in the ACT Legislative Assembly suggesting that ArtSound was no longer interested in moving to Kingston.

Ms Tyler advised that development at Kingston was likely to be delayed by about a year following abolition of the Land Development Authority. The President and Vice-president reiterated the Board's position that ArtSound remained interested in pursuing the option of a move to Kingston. artsACT's position is that the decision about whether to move to Kingston is one for each of the organisations to make, and that artsACT will work with ArtSound on future accommodation arrangements at Manuka Arts Centre. Consultation on design with organisations moving to Kingston could not begin until all approvals by the ACT Government were in place.

Strategic Planning

The Board successfully applied in 2016 for a planning grant from the Community Broadcasting Foundation (CBF). The grant allowed ArtSound to engage the services of consultant Steve Ahern. Members were invited to attend a planning workshop on 4 March 2017.

The workshop was followed by a period of consultation with members, the outcome of which was the 2017 to 2021 strategic plan. This is a vital document, as our major funding bodies, including the CBF and artsACT, expect our funding applications and acquittals to be related to our strategic priorities, viz:

1. Engage with and support the Canberra community as an arts organisation and broadcaster
2. Secure viable long-term premises and facilities for ArtSound at the Kingston Arts Precinct or other suitable site
3. Ensure that ArtSound's technology can support reliable, high-quality operations in an increasingly digital future
4. Engage and empower volunteers to play a greater role in ArtSound's operations
5. Increase and diversify sources of funding and other support, and
6. Manage station operations and finances responsibly and sustainably.

Digital Audio Broadcasting (DAB+)

Full-time Digital audio broadcasting (DAB+), including community stations, was originally to have begin during 2017, but is now expected to begin in the second half of 2018. Outgoing Board

Secretary Owen Gardner has been nominated as ArtSound's Director on the not-for-profit company representing community broadcasters.

Programming

In February, the Board approved the restructuring of the Program Committee, which operated with the Director as an ex-officio member during the first half of the year. The committee has now been reconstituted as one of the sub-committees recommended by the ArtSound Renewal Team.

New programs

There were a few changes to the programming lineup during 2017. The main changes were:

- A new local reading and writing program, *Write On*, hosted by Barbie Robinson, replaced *Spectrum* at **3.30pm on Wednesdays** from March, and in the second half of the year, was repeated as part of the *Artcetera* timeslot from 9am to 10am on Saturdays.
- WWOZ in the US discontinued production of *New Orleans Calling*, and it was replaced in the **4pm to 5pm Saturday** timeslot with *Music from the Movies*, followed by repeats of the locally-produced *Tales of Hoffman*, and later in the year by *I Love a Piano*, hosted by Stan d'Argeavel
- Repeats of *Red Velvet and Wild Boronia* from **3.30pm to 4pm on Mondays** were replaced with *Dress Circle*, hosted by Jen Seyderhelm, and later by *On Stage*, hosted by Len Power
- *Kaleidoscope*, which had run from **10pm to 11.30pm on Wednesdays**, was replaced early in the year with a syndicated program, *The Tiki Lounge Revisited*
- A new locally-produced funk-based program, *Liquid Sunshine*, hosted by Maarten Vlot, began in August, with the syndicated *New York Jazz* moving to Tuesday evenings, and *Ultima Thule* moving to a late-night slot.

Special programs

There were a number of special programs, most of which were promoted on air. These included:

- An all-Australia playlist for all live programs on Australia Day 2017, coordinated by Jen Seyderhelm
- A live outside broadcast from the Communicate and Participate (CAP) Expo in March.
- A Mothers Day *Meridian* program with sponsor Hudsons Events Catering providing prizes of tickets to its high tea at Albert Hall.
- Live outside broadcasts from the National Folk Festival
- A 'Beatles Sgt Pepper Anniversary' extended *Disk Drive* on 1 June, presented by Paul Conn and produced by Paul Conn, Mike Kennedy, Bryan Cummins and John Henderson. Publicity for the special included a poster produced by Barbie Robinson and featuring Paul, Mike, Bryan and Graham Freeman in Sgt Peppers costumes, and social media posts.

- An Elvis Presley 40th Anniversary *Disk Drive* on 16 August, presented by Paul Conn and produced by Paul Conn, Mike Kennedy and Bryan Cummins.
- An 'Australian 60s all requests' *Music Collector* on 30 Sep 2017; repeated on 20 Jan 2018, produced and presented by Mike Kennedy
- *Sounds Early* presenters ran a week-long tribute to the late Janet Seidel in August.

Senior Memories - contributed by Brian Leonard

Over the past year our Senior Memories service continued to serve participating aged care facilities, by streaming nostalgia music and other programs to help enhance the overall quality of life for their residents. The project is managed under the guidance of an active team of volunteers, with staff support for technical and administrative functions. There are six sites currently being serviced, with five more in the pipeline to join in 2018. Specific achievements include:

1. The production in-house of 'special' programs encompassing poetry readings; meditation and mindfulness; photography for the ageing; and origins of Canberra suburbs. These, together with the acquisition of various series of Grace Gibson radio serials, were funded by an ACT Government's Seniors' Participation Grant in 2016. The programs have now begun to be integrated into the Senior Memories service.
2. A \$10,000 donation from Rural Funds Management (RFM) to extend Senior Memories into aged care facilities in Griffith and Yoogali, NSW. Two facilities have since joined the Senior Memories service, and we are working to welcoming a third in 2018. In addition, RFM has generously undertaken to meet the set-up and five-year operational costs (\$8,400) of providing the service to those three facilities.
3. Late in 2017, the ACT Government, through its commitment to members of the ex-service community and seniors, awarded ArtSound a grant to trial Senior Memories in three RSL LifeCare aged-care facilities in Canberra; the grant being for the set up and first year of operation. With the assistance of Rotary International and others we are also working to extend the service to the RSL LifeCare facility in Yass.
4. An ArtSound / Senior Memories presence at the 2017 ACT Seniors' Expo at Exhibition Park. Several volunteers helped by engaging seniors passing-by, presenting an 'off air' Senior Memories Morning Show, interviewing various booth-holders, and handing out flyers. Our presence was popularly received.

We also take the opportunity to recognise the valued assistance of our team of experienced ArtSound presenters who have volunteered their time – in addition to their other commitments to ArtSound – to produce our flagship hour-long program *Senior Memories Morning Show* which is streamed into the participating facilities several times each week, with a specially dedicated program for each facility once a month.

We enter 2018 optimistic for the future of Senior Memories.

Technology Report – contributed by Chris Deacon

Transmission

Our FM and internet service availability was estimated at around 99.9% for the reporting period.

While some minor interruptions to normal programming were experienced due to power outages at the studio, transmissions were maintained with the backup generator and UPS equipment supplied by the Community Broadcasting Foundation.

90.3 MHz was available for 100% of the year. There was a brief downtime in the 92.7 MHz service from Poppet Hill due to an operating anomaly in the borrowed standby transmitter. ArtSound was required to use this loan transmitter, operating at reduced power, for most of the year while our main transmitter was unserviceable due to serious lightning damage.

Repairs attempted by the supplier proved to be futile and a successful insurance claim led to a pay out that will enable ArtSound to completely replace its transmitter, once issues with the current broadcast site have been fully investigated.

Extensive research was undertaken to explore future transmitter options, and source a suitable replacement, with several visits by ArtSound technical personnel to national exhibitions and conferences (including SMPTE17 and Technorama17). Visits by vendors and on-site assessments by broadcast consultants assisted in the development of an appropriate transmitter replacement strategy, and validated the Technology Team's concerns about safety and reliability aspects of the Poppet Hill site.

As part of the new transmitter procurement process, a Request for Tender was run among selected broadcast transmitter vendors, leading to the selection of a suitable supplier in the latter half of 2017. Numerous meetings and submissions with recommendations were prepared for the Board over this period. At the end of this reporting period, the successful tenderer and procurement time-frame was yet to be announced by the Board.

The Poppet Hill site continues to be prone to lightning and other issues. Following inaction by the site owner, ArtSound will be taking steps early in 2018 to mitigate further damage to ArtSound's equipment.

Broadcast Operations

Systematic upgrading of our broadcast and office computers has progressed, albeit slower than we had hoped. This includes custom-built servers purchased in 2016.

Our digital program link was upgraded with advanced audio codecs, which will support a wider range of remote broadcasting functions. Design of a new mast for the link at Manuka was completed, with its installation due in January 2018.

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

day operations. In this regard the Technology Team Looks forward to the Board allocating a technology budget commensurate with these aspirations.

ArtSound maintained close liaison with the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia's Community Radio Network, the Community Broadcasting Foundation, Technorama Incorporated, and local member stations in the Poppet Hill Broadcasting Consortium, 1WAY FM and 1 CMS FM.

Broadcast Operations Support

I have continued to take responsibility for programming and scheduling the *Sound Space After Hours*, and time-shifting, editing (if required) and re-broadcast of all satellite and internet delivered programs (up to 13 hours a day). Up to 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 also provided for ArtSound's recording and outside broadcasting involvement at the National Folk Festival, the Young Virtuoso of the Year Competition, the Gods Jazz Series, the ANU Popup Village, Jazz at the Gallery, and the Bungendore Woodworks Jazz Series. Classical music concert recordings continue, including events in the Canberra International Music Festival.

Senior Memories Webcasting Service

I have continued to support this project through technical planning and automated program support. Recent funding has enabled the provision of receivers at several sites in Griffith NSW, and will facilitate the addition of some extra sites in the ACT region. The support of the ACT Government, Infinite Networks, RSL Lifecare and Rural Funds Management is gratefully acknowledged.

Discussions were held with Seniors Australia with a view to collaborating on audience development. Their Manuka-based research unit has agreed in principle to act as advisors to 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..

Our recording studio continues to be highly sought after by musicians, artists and prestigious clients. A significant digital upgrade was completed in 2017, to keep recording standards up with industry trends. There is also an ongoing stream of audio transfer and voiceover work.

Station Relocation

This project appears to be on the back burner for the time being, and the implications of any move remains under review.

My 2016 report underscored 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 of any new premises. Early costing and design work would 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 would require external commercial expertise. This would be an enormous task that would require hundreds of hours of professional planning and design work - all of which have to be costed and funded.

The incoming Board will need to give this appropriate attention to clarify the best directions for ArtSound to pursue. Any consideration of moving needs to ensure our complex needs would not be compromised, and that sufficient funds and other resources would be available in a timely manner to ensure feasibility.

Miscellaneous

In 2017, I attended the annual conference of community broadcasting technologists “Technorama17”, at Campbelltown NSW, at my own expense. Technology team coordinator Tim Lamble’s attendance was partially funded by ArtSound

Acknowledgments

Recognising that it is just not possible to maintain and develop the extent of infrastructure at ArtSound without the assistance of a team, I would like to acknowledge the members of the ArtSound Technology Team (Tim Lamble, Rodger Bean, Tony Hunter, Steven Stroud, Steve James, John Smythe, Floyd Patterson) whose work, advice and support throughout the year has been invaluable.

Board membership

There were 12 Board meetings during 2017. In accordance with motions passed at the 2017 Annual General Meeting, Board minutes are now available in the members’ section of the ArtSound website.

The following members, elected in 2014 and 2015, served on the Board from 1 January 2017 until the date shown:

- Gabriela Cabral (term expired 23 May 2017)
- David Chalker (resigned 15 June 2017)
- Maria Greene (resigned 21 February 2017)
- Evana Ho (term expired 23 May 2017)
- Mike Kennedy (resigned 31 October 2017)
- Richard Scherer (served throughout 2017)
- Rebecca Scouller (term expired 23 May 2017)
- Deane Terrell (served throughout 2017)

The following members were elected on 23 May 2017, or appointed on the dates shown:

- Bryan Cummins
- Owen Gardner
- Jan Muir
- Margaret O’Shea (appointed by the board on 25 June, resigned 31 August)
- Maarten Vlot
- Stuart Warner
- Russell Wilson (resigned 26 September 2017)

Committees

In 2017, the following Committees providing oversight specific aspects of the association’s operations and were either chaired by a member of the Board or by a delegated appointed by the Board:

- Executive committee (President, Treasurer and Secretary)
- Program Committee (Chaired by Paul Conn)
- Senior Memories Committee (Chaired by Deane Terrell)

ArtSound Renewal Team

In the second half of the year, the Board approved the establishment of the ArtSound Renewal Team (ART) to recommend and recruit Board sub-committees and their terms of reference. The ART was comprised of some Board members and other volunteers. The Board received regular progress reports, and before the end of the year, the ART recommended, and the Board approved, the formation and membership of a Communications Committee.

Particular thanks go to Amalijah Thompson and Maarten Vlot, who undertook coordination roles. The work of the ART continues, and more information is available in the members-only area of the website.

Communication with members

Website

The current artsound.fm website, which went live in August 2016, is designed to be mobile-friendly and to always display current program information, with a particular emphasis on programs featuring local musicians and artists.

In 2017, the site had about 23,000 user sessions. The Home Page had some 29,000 views.

The site also includes features for members, who can also access documents such as annual reports and corporate plans. They can also view confirmed minutes of Board and general meeting resolutions in a member-only section of the site.

Social media

The ArtSound Facebook page (www.facebook.com/artsoundfm) features information about upcoming programs and events, with posts typically reaching audiences in the hundreds, and in some cases thousands. Jacqui Knobel took on the role as administrator of the page during 2017, following on from Evana Ho, and a number of presenters regularly contribute photos, videos and text.

Member newsletters

A total of 18 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, and typically, between 50 and 70 per cent of members open their emails. – much higher than the benchmark figure for not-for-profits.

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

Fundraising and special events

In addition to the outside broadcasts and events mentioned elsewhere in this report, volunteers undertook major fundraising and marketing activities, including:

- The Winter and Spring Book and Music Fairs in 2017 netted about \$11,000, thanks to magnificent work by Peter Sullivan and his team. The Winter fair, which featured a member-only preview, was particularly successful. To meet audit requirements, a single payment point was introduced at the Winter fair, with paper cash receipts issued. This was streamlined for the Spring fair, with all payments recorded electronically.
- A team headed by Brian Leonard raised more than \$3,200 at a *Name That Tune* evening on 24 November at Eastlake Football Club.
- The ANU School of Music offered \$500 for recording concerts at its Rhythm and Blooms concert series at Floriade. Volunteers recorded two concerts and handed out ArtSound marketing cards
- A team of volunteers including Steve James, Barbie Robinson and Jan Muir, handed out information about ArtSound at the Frida Fiesta fundraising event at the Fitters Workshop on October 8, and at the Tuggeranong Arts Centre *Whatever floats your horse* fun day in November

ACT Young Virtuoso of the Year 2017 – contributed by Annabel Wheeler

For over 30 years, aspiring musicians and singers have competed for the Fine Music Network's national award for classical musicians under 25—now known as the Young Virtuoso of the Year

Award. Each participating station (3MBS in Melbourne, 4MBS in Brisbane, 5MBS in Adelaide, Fine Music 102.5 in Sydney and Art Sound) nominates a representative to perform in the national final. In 2017, the award offered a generous cash prize of \$10,000 as well as career-boosting broadcast opportunities.

ArtSound sought nominations from the ANU School of Music, Musica Viva, the Wesley Music Centre and the Canberra Youth Orchestra. The four finalists (a pianist, a flautist, a double bass player and a guitarist) competed in the ACT final, held in the ArtSound recording studio as a live broadcast on Sunday 24 September—a wonderfully diverse musical experience for those listening. As the winner, the 22-year-old Korean-born pianist Linus (Hanul) Lee received a free recording session in the Artsound studio. He also represented ArtSound and the ACT in the national final, held in the studio at Fine Music 102.5 at St Leonards in Sydney on 26 November. There was fierce competition with the other four state finalists. All played their hearts out but the overall winner was Leon Fei an amazing 13-year-old violinist from Melbourne.

Thanks to all who helped in organising and contributing to the success of the ACT Young Virtuoso Award and broadcast, especially Andrew Blanckensee, Chris Deacon, Tim Lamble, generous donors who covered Linus's travel costs and our adjudicators, Sally Greenaway, Marian Budos and Charlotte Winslade.

Volunteers

Volunteers are the lifeblood of our station, both on-air and the many off-air roles. In 2017, Artsound had about 100 regular volunteers, whose tasks included:

- Presenting live and recorded programs
- Supporting and presenting outside broadcasts
- Organising major fundraising events, such as the Book and Music Fairs
- 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
- Maintaining 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.

Training

There were three Introduction to Broadcasting training courses during the year, with many of the participants going on to become regular presenters

The first two courses, , coordinated by then Director Jen Seyderhelm as a volunteer, were in March/April. One course ran over two weekends, and the second over six evenings.

The third, coordinated by Jan Muir and Amalijah Thompson, ran over a single weekend in December.

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 2017:

- Artists Society of Canberra
- Australian String Quartet
- Belconnen Arts Centre
- Beyond Q
- Canberra Brass
- Canberra Blues Society
- Canberra Irish Club
- Canberra Symphony Orchestra
- Canberra Theatre Centre
- Music for Canberra
- Queanbeyan Players
- The Song Company
- Tuggeranong Arts Centre

The following were commercial or contra sponsors during 2017

- ACT Government
- Acoustic Piano Services
- Australian Chamber Orchestra
- Australian Festival of Chamber Music
- Australian Haydn Ensemble
- ANU School of Music
- Australian Native Plant Society
- Australian Youth Orchestra
- Bartercard
- Core Essentials
- CSG
- Duratone
- Hudson's Event Catering
- Infinite Networks
- Jirra Wines
- Ki Acupuncture
- Music Seminars
- Ray White
- Regional Wine and Beverage Merchants
- Security 1
- Storage King
- Sweet Apple
-

Key facts and figures

Membership numbers as at 31 December 2017

At 31 December 2017, ArtSound had the following financial membership (i.e. whose membership runs until 31 October 2018 or later):

- 86 concessional members
- 157 individual members
- 48 family memberships (each covering two or more members)
- 15 life members (who pay no membership fees)

Board Members as at 31 December 2017

- Mr Richard Scherer President
- Mr Maarten Vlot Vice president
- Wing Commander Owen Gardner Secretary
- (Vacant) Treasurer
- Mr Bryan Cummins
- Ms Jan Muir
- Emeritus Professor Deane Terrell AO
- Mr Stuart Warner

ArtSound engaged the following staff and contractors during 2017

- Ms Leith Dudfield, Office Manager, from 24 July 2017 (15 hours per week)*
- Ms Jen Seyderhelm, Director, to 30 June 2017 (20 hours per week)**
- Ms Judy Baker, Administrator, to 6 July 2017 (20 hours per week)
- Mr Chris Deacon OAM, Manager, Technology (through services contract with Deacon Communications)
- Mr Peter Bayliss, bookkeeper/accountant (through services contract with Into Tomorrow) to 16 August 2018
- Mr Tony Hunter, Audio Engineer (hourly basis subject to incoming work)

*Ms Dudfield was engaged for a further four hours per week on bookkeeping duties following the resignation of Mr Bayliss.

**Ms Seyderhelm took paid and unpaid leave from 1 July, and subsequently resigned.

We thank our all our presenters and off-air volunteers, including those who regularly assisted in the office, particularly in the first half of 2017:

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