

**Minutes of the
Annual General Meeting**

of

***The New Zealand
Cake Decorators Guild
Incorporated***

Held at Silverstream Retreat, 3 Reynolds Bach Drive, Lower Hutt

Friday 15th May 2026, 1.30pm

Jude Tosh, President: Welcome to the Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Inc., on Friday the 15th of May 2006 at 1:30. Could I please request that the sound of all mobile phones be turned off? When you wish to speak, please hold up your branch name and wait until you receive a microphone before speaking. Give your branch name first, then your own name. And could I please have two volunteers from the observers, who could be scrutineers.

Welcome

Jude Tosh, President: On behalf of the Executive Committee, it is a privilege to welcome all delegates and observers to the 40th Annual General Meeting of the New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Incorporated.

Of our 29 Branches we are represented here today by delegates from 19 branches, 6 represented by proxy and 4 branches are not represented.

I now ask that we observe a few moments silence to acknowledge those who have suffered serious illness or bereavement over the past year.

Thank you.

Apologies

Jude Tosh, President: I now call for apologies.

From the floor: Gay Truman, Life Member, Canterbury; Faye Wells, Life Member, Canterbury; Anne Williams, Canterbury; Libby Reveley, Redwood; Beth Fuge, Wairarapa;

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary: Marlborough Cake Decorators Guild

Jude Tosh President: Are there any other apologies from any other branches

May I now have a mover that the apologies be accepted?

Can the mover please give their branch name and their name.

Can we have a seconder, please?

All those in favour please say aye by raising your hands, those to the contrary please raise your hands. Any abstentions raise your hand.

Julie Eade, Redwood /Sandra Angove, Napier. Carried

Minutes of Previous Annual General Meeting

Jude Tosh, President: The Minutes of the previous AGM have been distributed to all branches.

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary: I move that the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Incorporated held on 15th May 2025, be taken as read.

Jude Tosh: President: Can we have a seconder please.

All those in favour please say aye by raising their hands, please lower your hands, any to the contrary. Please lower your hands. Any abstentions.

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary / Greg Corbitt, Christchurch. Carried

Jude Tosh, President: Are there any amendments required to these minutes?

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary: I move that the Minutes of the Meeting held on Friday 15th May 2025 be approved and adopted as a true and correct record.

Jude Tosh, President: Can we have a seconder please.

All those in favour please say aye by raising their hands, thank you, you may lower your hands. Those to the contrary please raise your hands. Any abstentions raise your hand.

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary /Mel Cade, Southland. Carried

Matters Arising from the Minutes

Jude Tosh President: Are there any matters arising from the minutes? Please raise your hand if there is. No matters arising from the minutes

Correspondence

Jude Tosh President: Karen, would you please present the correspondence

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary: Correspondence since May 2025

Inwards

President	Approved AGM Minutes 2025
Nominations and Profiles	Executive 2025 Nominations & Profiles
NZCDG Inc. President	Annual Report
Magazine Editor	Annual Report
Judges Co-ordinator	Annual Report

Outwards

President	AGM Minutes 2025 for approval
All Exec, Branch Secretaries and Lone Members	2025 AGM Agenda, Executive Nominations, & Treasurers Report & Guidelines for Delegates, EOY Financial Accounts

I move that the Outwards Correspondence be confirmed, and the Inwards Correspondence be received

Jude Tosh President: Can we have a seconder please. Please raise your hand. All those in favour please say aye. Any to the contrary? Any abstentions?

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary / Leigh Sullivan, Taupo. Carried

Matters Arising from Correspondence

Jude Tosh, President: Are there any matters arising from the correspondence? Please raise your hand. No. There are no matters arising from the correspondence

Financial Report

Jude Tosh, President: The reviewed Financial Report for the year to 31 December 2025 has been distributed to all branches.

Delwyn Burrow, Treasurer: I move that the Financial Report of the New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Incorporated for the 12 months to 31 December 2025 be adopted.

Jude Tosh, President: May I have a seconder please. All those in favour please say aye by raising their hands. Those to the contrary, please say no. Any abstaining?

Delwyn Burrow, Treasurer / Julie Ede, Redwood. Carried

Branches wishing to ask questions at the AGM regarding the Financial Report were requested to pre-advise these by 8th May 2026. We did receive a letter from the Westland Guild. Could someone from Westland please read this through, thank you.

Lorraine Gibbons, Westland: Our issue was with the magazine. We just came up with three solutions to try and cut the costs. One could be we could reduce the magazine from four issues to two a year, or send each guild magazine copies in a courier parcel just to your branch secretary, and then all the magazines get distributed from the branch, saving costs of the labels and the posting to each individual branch. Or having the magazine digital on the website for members to log in and view. We viewed the 2023 magazine, and it was actually quite good looking at it on the website. So, all those things could cut the savings to the guild.

Jude Tosh, President: I think if we have more questions about the magazine, we may hold those for the general discussion, because there are a few comments that the Executive have regarding that as well.

Is there anybody else has any matters relating to the financial report?

The executive committee has recommended to all branches that subscriptions for the year commencing the 1st of April 2027 be increased from \$55 to \$64 for general and lone members, and \$84 for overseas members. Would any branch like to comment before we vote on that? Now, I do understand that some of the comments around the magazine is relating to the increase. Do we want to hold that off the vote till for the subscriptions until we finalize the magazine discussion? Is that okay with everybody?

President's Report

Jude Tosh, President:

Welcome to our 40th annual general meeting and the 38th national conference of our guild. 40 years ago, a dedicated group of cake decorators came together to form what is now the New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild. As we gather today, it is fitting to reflect on the purpose that gilded our founders and continues to guide us today.

The guild was established in 1986 as a national body representing branches with the following purposes:

- to work for the improvement of the standards of cake decorating and to support the continued growth of its members, promoting recognition of the value of cake decorating in the community
- to encourage and promote the establishment of branches of the guilds
- to assist and promote competition and judging of cake decorating
- to arrange and promote conferences, exhibitions and demonstrations
- to foster the exchange of ideas between cake decorators at national and international levels.

This year, we would like to honour and acknowledge one of our founding members, Gay Truman, who will be celebrating her 100th birthday on the 23rd of May in Akaroa. Reaching this milestone is amazing, and we're grateful for her contribution to the guild's beginnings.

This year's conference has brought together 90 members, including seven members from Australia, with delegates representing 19 of our 29 branches, along with three lone members and one overseas member.

While it is wonderful to see good representation, our overall guild membership continues to decline, now at 352, compared with 382 the previous year. It was sad that we saw the South Canterbury branch close due to declining membership. This remains an ongoing challenge for all branches. We need to actively promote the guild and encourage new members to join.

While we acknowledge the challenges of declining membership, we also recognize the strength that remains within our guild.

Every branch, no matter its size, plays a vital role in keeping our craft alive.

They are where friendships form, where skills are passed on, and where creativity is celebrated, and nurtures the welcoming spirit that defined us for 40 years.

I want to take a moment to acknowledge our volunteers and to all of you who support those volunteers.

Their dedication is the backbone of everything we do. Their work often happens quietly behind the scenes, but its impact is felt everywhere. Let us continue to support them.

I also extend my appreciation to the guild members who have provided technical support and advice whenever needed.

This has been a very busy and challenging year for the executive as we settled into our new roles. I want to sincerely thank every member of the Executive Committee for their outstanding work, support, and patience throughout the year. Their countless hours behind the scenes have been invaluable.

As we celebrate our 40th anniversary, let us look forward positively. We have a proud history, devoted membership, and a craft that continues to challenge us all with the new techniques. Together, we can ensure that the next 40 years are just as creative and connective.

Thank you all for your continued dedication.

Together, we honour our past, celebrate our present, and work together for a strong future for the next generation of cake decorators.

Jude Tosh
President, NZ Cake Decorators Guild Inc.

I move that my 2025 President's Report be adopted. May I have a Seconder

All those in favour please raise your hands. Please lower your hands. Those to the contrary please raise your hands. Please lower your hands. Any abstentions?

Jude Tosh, President / Greg Corbitt, Canterbury. Carried

Election of Officers

Jude Tosh, President: You have been emailed the names of those nominated for each position.

As I'm standing for president, with the permission of the committee, I will now hand the chair to Vice President Sandra McSherry

Sandra McSherry, Vice President: I now declare the position of president to be vacant. There is one nomination for the position of President, Jude Tosh, Eastern Southland.

As there are no other nominations, I declare Jude Tosh elected President of the NZCDG Inc. for 2026.

With the meeting's permission, I will now hand the chair back to Jude. All those in favour, please say aye. Those to the contrary, please say no. Any abstaining? Carried

Jude Tosh, President: I now declare the position of Vice President, Secretary & Treasurer to be vacant.

There is one nomination for Vice President, Sandra McSherry, Redwood. As there are no other nominations, I declare Sandra McSherry elected Vice President of the NZCDG Inc for 2026.

There is one nomination for Secretary, Karen Gargiulo, Southland. As there are no other nominations, I declare Karen Gargiulo elected Secretary of the NZCDG Inc for 2026.

There is one nomination for Treasurer, Delwyn Burrow, South Otago. I declare Delwyn Burrow, South Otago as Treasurer of the NZCDG Inc for 2026.

The nominations for Executive Committee are Bronwyn Bone, Central Otago and Gillian Belton, Westland. As there are no other nominations, I declare that Bronwyn Bone and Gillian Belton are elected to the Committee positions for 2026.

As there are no other nominations for committee and there is one vacant position, please contact the executive committee after this meeting if you wish to be considered. Would really love somebody from the North Island.

Thank you to all those who made themselves available for election.

Magazine Editor's Report

Jude Tosh, President: I'd now like to call on your Magazine Editor Karen Gargiulo, to present her Magazine Editors Report

Karen Gargiulo:

As many of you will remember, we appointed someone at last year's AGM to take on the role of Editor for our national magazine. Unfortunately, that arrangement didn't come to fruition, and so on behalf of the Executive Committee I stepped in to compile the magazine for you.

And what a journey it has been. A challenge at times, absolutely — it has certainly been a learning curve — but also a rewarding one. I want to extend my heartfelt thanks to the Executive Committee for helping gather material whenever we've fallen short. Thank you, to Michele Barnett for her work in the final editing stages and for coordinating with the printers. And to the Tauranga ladies, who so kindly take care of enveloping the magazines for distribution — your help is truly appreciated.

Now, let's talk about content, or as I like to call it: *"the magical substance that is supposed to appear out of thin air."*

I'd like to take a moment to emphasise just how essential contributions from branches and individual members truly are. Many of you have expressed how much you value the magazine and how important it is to keep it going. We absolutely agree. But its success — and its very existence — depends on the content provided by you. This is not the Editor's magazine. This is not the Executive Committee's magazine. It is your magazine. Without regular contributions, it becomes increasingly difficult to produce a publication that reflects the breadth, creativity, and spirit of our Guild. There is no Magazine Fairy. If there were, I would have found her and kidnapped her by now.

I genuinely enjoy compiling the content we receive. I love seeing what you're doing, what you're creating, what you're celebrating. But we need more. Ideally, we'd have so much material that we'd be forced to make difficult decisions like, "Which of these ten fabulous articles should we include?" Right now, the decision is more like, "Well... this is what we've got."

We understand that everyone is busy and that we are all volunteers. Life is full. But please don't hold back because you think, "Oh, people might not like this." Let me reassure you:

- If its cake related, we will like it.
- If it's not cake related, we'll probably still like it.

Every branch has something unique to offer. Every member has a story, a skill, a moment worth sharing. And every contribution strengthens not just the magazine, but our entire community.

So, here's your friendly nudge:

- Tried an amazing recipe? We want to try it to
- Got someone who takes photos at your guild nights? Send them in with a small blurb.
- Been part of or held a community event? We want to know about it to
- Have a member who's extraordinary, quirky, talented, inspiring, or all of the above? Every guild has at least one. Let's celebrate them.

Your magazine is a celebration of everything that makes our Guild wonderful: the creativity, the talent, the friendships, the occasional chaos, and the shared joy that keeps us coming back.

I look forward to receiving more content in the year ahead and to continuing to produce a magazine that reflects the dedication, the spirit, and the heart of our Guild.

With your help, our magazine can continue to be better, full, vibrant, and unmistakably ours.

Karen Gargiulo

Editor

I would like to move that this report be accepted

Jude Tosh, President: All those in favour please say aye by raising their hands. Please lower your hands. Those to the contrary please raise your hand. Please lower your hands. Any abstentions raise your hand.

Karen Gargiulo, Editor / Anne Smith, Eastern Southland. Carried

Jude Tosh, President: - Are there any questions for Karen? No

This brings us to our Judges Co-Ordinator's report. I'd now like to ask Marilyn Curnow to present the Judges Co-Ordinator's report.

Marilyn Curnow, Judges Co-Ordinator:

The Wellington Cake and Sugarcraft Competition and Exhibition was held at the Angus Inn in Lower Hutt July 12th-13th 2025

Ten Judges attended to judge the competition on Friday 11 July 2025.

The last Judge to complete her practical from the Judges' training held in April 2024 attended and completed her practical judging, so is now a qualified Judge.

The competition was well supported by many competitors especially the youth sections. Entries in some of the sections were large and some were medium to small. But it all came together to be a lovely exhibition.

In August Rosemary Ballard and I organised a Stewards Training. This was held at my home in Taupo. Rosemary was the Trainer, with some of the other Judges also attending the day to assist with the training. Four ladies attended the day, completing the training and passing. These four ladies are all attending conference and will have stewarded this morning alongside the other stewards.

We had hoped to arrange another training for the South Island ladies that had put their names forward before conference, but family commitments meant this was not to be. We will try organising another steward training when we find a suitable venue in the south.

Thank you all as this will be my last report as I have stood down from the position of Judges Co-ordinator and will resume my duties as a Judge.

Marilyn Curnow

Judges Co-ordinator

I move that the Judges Co-Ordinator's report for 2026 be accepted.

Jude Tosh, President: All those in favour please say aye by raising their hands. Please lower your hands. Those to the contrary please raise your hand. Please lower your hands. Any abstentions raise your hand.

Marilyn Curnow, Judges Co-Ordinator / Carol Wadams, Franklin. Carried

Are there any questions for Marilyn?

Marilyn Curnow, Judges Co-Ordinator: If the people that actually approached me from the South Island in Dunedin, if they can come and see me over the weekend, I've still got your names, but I don't have your

contact. And we would like to actually get on and organize a stewards training for them as soon as possible. But we need to talk to them.

Julie Ede, Redwood: Who is the new Judges Co-Ordinator please?

Marilyn Curnow, Judges Co-Ordinator: The new coordinator for next year will be Sandra Angove.

Notice of Motion

Jude Tosh, President: We, the executive, wish to submit the following notice of motion to bring our constitution in line with the requirement of the Inland Revenue Department to keep our not-for-profit status. Clause 11 currently allows for the rules to be altered. There must be a clause stating that the rules cannot be altered to allow personal benefit.

We wish to add the following:

Clause 11 to include the following paragraph:

"No addition to, deletion from, or alteration of the organization's rules shall be made which would allow personal financial gain to any individuals. The provisions and effects of this clause shall not be removed from this document and shall be included and implied into any document replacing this document.

That the altering of the Guild's constitution, we will keep our not-for-profit status in line with the Inland Revenue requirements

The rationale.

Our reasons for submitting the remit are to bring our constitution in line with the requirements of the Inland Revenue Department for the Incorporated Societies.

I would like to ask the Napier delegate to read their notice of motion.

Sandra Angove, Napier: In respect of the New Zealand executive and with the heartfelt approval of the Napier Guild, we withdraw our remit.

Jude Tosh, President: I would now ask the delegates to vote on the notice of motion that the constitution be updated as per the requirements of the IRD, and then renumber the existing clauses 11.2 and 11.3, and 11.3 as 11.4.

Could I please call for the scrutineers to come forward and count the votes?

All those in favour, please raise your green card

All those to the contrary, please raise your red no cards.

Any abstentions

Carried

Plaque choosing

Jude Tosh, President: We have Nature Land, Japanese garden and The Museum.

Please look in your pack and write your choice and pass it to the scrutineers when they come around.

The plaque title for 2027 is going to be Japanese Garden.

General Business:

Jude Tosh, President: The conference in 2027 is to be held in Nelson.

Are there any branches who wish to come forward to host the conference in 2028? That would be a North Island one.

(Sandra Angove, Napier raised her hand)

Napier, thank you. Was there anyone else? No. So, it would appear that Napier has offered to host the 2028 conference.

Sandra Angove, Napier: We must be mad, we must be crazy, and yes, we are. We enjoyed 2023 so much. Everybody, the feedback was amazing, the venue was amazing, and the accommodation was amazing. So, guess what? We're doing it again. Donna from the War Memorial has put a package together, which I will give to the executive. Sanju from Te Pania is also putting a discounted accommodation package together. And we will just work our butts off and welcome our associate members to help us. But thank you, ladies and gentlemen. We look forward to having you come back to Napier

Jude Tosh, President: May I please have someone to move that all voting papers be destroyed by the scrutineers at the conclusion of the plaque selection following the AGM? Seconded? All those in favour say aye. Those to the contrary please say no. Anybody abstaining?

Mel Cade, Southland / Beth Regnault, Wairarapa. Carried

Open forum for discussion

Jude Tosh, President: We're up to the open forum of discussion. Please note that any financial member of the NZCGD may speak at this time. We'll revisit the subs in this and the issue over the magazine and the costing that Westland have talked about and the delivery of. And then we will go back to the vote on the subs.

Beth Regnault, Wairarapa: Yes, we want to know why the magazine is still coming to each person, as we understood it was going to be bulk sent to each guild.

Jude Tosh, President: That was never decided, I don't think it was decided. Was that at the Zoom meeting or was that at Dunedin?

Well, we will have to go back and have a look because as far as we're aware, that wasn't a vote to change it. There was a lot of discussion, but it wasn't voted on to change the delivery.

Lorraine Gibbons, Westland: One of our suggestions was the same as Wairarapa is, about going to the guilds for delivery out to people, or so it could go digital or cut the volume back and only do two, not four. They're just suggestions.

Carole Venecourt, Tauranga: I would just like to know, what would the saving be in dollars and cents? Is it really going to be that much? Has anybody actually worked out how much it's going to be if it goes to the different, guilds or the branches, and then being distributed? Have they actually worked out how much that will save? Is it really worth it?

Jude Tosh, President: We haven't done a costing on that.

Julie Ede, Redwood: Is it still going to be coming late? I have had a few, and I'll take this one for an example, because there was that piece about somebody workshop, and you had to get to the date, but I mean, I got it Tuesday last week, and I left Wednesday, so.

Karen Gargiulo, Magazine Editor: I sent the magazine on to the next person, I did as much as I could do that I've been told how to do of the magazine. I do know though that Kale Print did move buildings, as I was talking to one of the printers from Kale Print, and things were delayed a little bit.

Julie Ede, Redwood: Thanks for that, Karen. I just didn't want everybody blaming the executive when it's not the executive's fault

Sandra Angove, Napier: Many years ago, when I was on executive, exactly this question was asked. And we did the costings, and it was actually much more effective to post individually than to bulk post because the bulk post costs were higher. And also, we had had bulk posting, and every year, we'd have to do a run at the end of the year to those members that hadn't attended and put their magazines in their

letterboxes. So, and I know many guilds had the same problem, that people weren't actually getting their magazines. And unless the local members took that step to deliver the magazines, they just didn't get them, so. They attend the meetings. But some people, for illness reasons, don't make the meetings. And at least if it goes to their home, they've got their magazine. But I'd be interested to see the figures.

Helen Corder, Tauranga: Just in regards to bulk posting, and following on really from what Julie's commenting about delays that do happen regardless. If we get them in our branch, our meetings are all at different times. So, we could effectively delay the delivery by nearly a month if they arrive two days after you've had your branch meeting. So that's just something to consider. We're already facing delays. Do we want any more?

Kelly Burdon, Petone: Just a couple of things. I do know firsthand, one of the reasons there was a delay with the magazine is apparently the printer had issues with sourcing envelopes. So that's just a heads up. But the other thing I keep hearing every single year too, and we get lots of reminders, is around obviously contributions towards the magazine. So, I think, we're sort of going around in circles about couriers and stuff like that, but maybe it is, as Westland said, cutting back to just maybe two and go for quality over quantity. Two magazines a year and having really good quality stuff in there.

Helen Corder, Tauranga: What about three times a year? I fully think that I support what Kelly says, quality not quantity. But the concern with that is that the magazine is also our way of getting information and notices, demo days. So twice a year doesn't really cut it. I feel that if you went for twice a year, perhaps it should be two posted ones and two digital ones. So, we still have four issues, but they're not all printed when we're considering cost, because this is what this is all about, is about cost. So, if we went for a split down the middle, maybe that's a solution that keeps the magazine going in terms of keeping our members informed, but it obviously halves the cost. And maybe we do let ourselves move eventually to full digital, but there are some for whom that doesn't really suit. So, it's kind of a bob each way.

Gaye Seymour, Tauranga: I just want to comment on the receiving the mail. We're all blaming the exec and everyone else for receiving the mail, but I know for a fact that members in our club, which get it all sent from Tauranga, receive their mail differently. Some will get it nearly a week later. So, you can't blame the Kale Print or the executive. We've got a hell of a problem with New Zealand Post. And to quote a story, I recently was doing some important business, and it was done by email. Ten days after the first email, I received a letter in the post with all the details of that first email. So, the business was sending me out a hard copy, but that took 10 days. So just be aware when you're thinking about it, it's not all the exec.

Greg Corbitt, Canterbury: Canterbury Guild has sent at least three letters that I know to the exec asking for quotes for how much to sponsor pages in the magazine. To date, they have never had a reply.

Jude Tosh, President: Who'd you send it to?

Greg Corbitt, Canterbury: It was sent to the secretary, be it the one before you or you.

Karen Gargiulo, Secretary: If I had it, I would have forwarded it to the treasurer, but I don't recall seeing it.

Greg Corbitt, Canterbury: This is just what I was told by our president. She did get one reply back saying, "I'll get in touch with you regarding the price of the page," and never heard anything back. Why we were going to do it was Canterbury Guild was actually in the process of folding, and we wanted to get rid of our money. I would like to also say, just moving off a bit, as of the end of this financial year of the New Zealand Guild, the Canterbury Cake Decorators Guild is no longer. It has folded due to lack of members. And we were the first guild in New Zealand.

Jo Vivier, Tauranga: Just following on from what Helen said about maybe printing two books and the rest digital. If we go down to two, does our printing cost go up quite a lot because we've reduced the amount of printing that we're getting done, or is it all just based per book?

Jude Tosh, President: My understanding is they give us a special rate because of what we do. So, by reducing it, that rate could change. Why don't we do the figures?

Debbie Turner, Franklin: I belong to a couple of other groups, and we've gone digital with our newsletters, and we've made it that it is more expensive to get your... So, we've passed on the costs of the printed ones, so those who wish to have printed magazines pay for the privilege of having the printed magazines, and everyone else gets digital. And that's a reduced membership cost. So that could be something. But I agree with Helen, too, and everyone else, it's something that needs to be looked at, and maybe two, one digital, one hard copy. But yeah, the costs are getting prohibitive. So that could be one way around it.

Beth Regnault, Wairarapa: What would the cost be for setting up digital?

Jude Tosh, President: We don't know, but it's certainly not going to be the cost of what it's currently costing us. We may have to buy a publishing program. We do have Publisher now, but there are other better ones available, looking at, and this is where we're heading, where the exec have discussed this, is if we went digital, to email them out individually, everybody has to have their emails correct in our system. Now, from sending out the Cognito form, trust me, a lot of our guild's emails are incorrect, and it bounced back for a whole week. That delayed the Cognito forms. In the end, I sat there on a Sunday doing guild by guild, so it wouldn't crash, and trying to triple-check everybody's emails. The preferred way would be, and to trial it, and to keep our subs down, is to go to a digital program. We email the secretary of each guild, and they disseminate it to their guild members. Because most secretaries send out all the notices to their guild members, so therefore, they will have the correct emails. It would also be put on the website for people who may not want to do it. If it's on their phone, they can take it into the warehouse if they want to have a physical copy and print it. That would keep our subs down and make it way more affordable for everybody.

Kelly Burdon, Petone: I just wanted to give you a FYI, actually, that a lot of the digital e-newsletter software, which you can also use for the magazine, is free up to a certain amount. So, for example, you've got 500, you send 500 out. Don't quote me, but I think, for example, the one I use is free up to 500 email addresses.

Jude Tosh, President: But people need to give us the correct email addresses, is the thing. I know, but that's like anything. If they don't give you the right postal address, it doesn't get to them. It fails. So hence why the suggestion is we email the secretaries, and the secretaries then disseminate it amongst their own branch. That way, there's no delay of them coming to a meeting. They've got it, and it's done. It would be a learning curve, and maybe it's something we can trial for a year to see how it works, or even six months to see how it works. We will keep to the printed copy for now, and hopefully, we can have a decision on trialling it.

Linda Bunt, Nelson: We wanted to know whether at the next AGM, with the conference, whether we can have tables that are being charged for traders, because the traders are finding it too expensive to have to pay for a table. They're not making any profit. Whether they can just come, bring their products. But at the moment, they've got to pay their money, don't they? They've got to cover travel, accommodation.

Jude Tosh, President: We have to pay for the tables. Yeah, we have to actually rent the tables and pay for them, so there would still be a nominal charge. We can't not charge them.

Linda Bunt, Nelson: If we get the tables for free. So how do we negotiate tables?

Jude Tosh, President: With the venue. We have to pay for the venue cost, the room that we're in, plus the tables. So, it's got to be a cost somewhere.

Linda Bunt, Nelson: So, if we get the tables are free for members, then we're not charging the traders?

Jude Tosh, President: We would have to look at that when we are organising for the next conference and have a discussion about it at a later time

Linda Bunt, Nelson: Thank you

Jude Tosh, President: We're heading back towards then voting on the subs. The executive committee, we're back to the subs, has recommended to all branches that subscriptions for the year commencing the 1st of April 2027 be increased from \$55 to \$64, and for general aligned members and \$84 for overseas. Would any branch like to comment before we vote?

Julie Ede, Redwood: When I put this to our members, they asked why it hadn't been put up at the last two conferences, because years ago, it was told it was to be going up. Now, I can't remember whether it was a dollar a year or \$2 a year.

Jude Tosh, President: \$2 a year.

Julie Ede, Redwood: So that's \$4 of what's going up. There are two meetings, two things it didn't go up. It didn't go up at the last one because we didn't have a conference. But it's at the AGM it's done, so it should have gone up in the AGM. It's our membership fee to New Zealand. So, it's only that lot, because with other things going on and the cost of living as it's gone on at the present moment, I asked them how much they thought it should go up to, and they said \$66.

Jude Tosh, President: They want to go higher than what we've asked for.

Julie Ede, Redwood: Yep, because that one there only really covers it by 63 cents of what the cost of it is at \$63.67. Now, one of our members said to me, "Oh, it's only a cup of coffee a week." And I said, "Excuse me? If you're going to have a cup of coffee a week, it's 52 times that. So, you want it to go up?" And then she realized what we're talking about. So, a cup of coffee you can't use as an example. But that's just from Redwood.

Jo Vivier, Tauranga: Are we able to make this vote based on, sorry, with a consideration of what happens with the magazine, that perhaps in future years it might be reduced even if we vote yes now?

Jude Tosh, President: Yes. Those figures are based on what it cost this last year and some forecasted costs to allow for bills to be paid and that sort of stuff. We know that things aren't going to get any cheaper, hence why we're not voting on the magazine now. If we come back to you and say, "We're going to try this or do this," or whatever else, and everybody agrees to it, those subs could well, I'm not saying they will, but they could well come down, allowing for the decrease in the cost of that magazine. We only ever set it through our costs that we have from previous years. It is determined by the covering letter from the treasurer. These were the costs. This is the dollars we need to cover those costs, otherwise the guild would run at a loss, and you guys wouldn't be very happy

Sandra Angove, Napier: If you do the figures, it's \$1.23 a week for 52 weeks. Stick \$1.50 in a jar. That's all it is.

Jude Tosh, President: Is there anyone else that'd like to comment before we go to a vote?

Would everybody who is put their cards up green for yes, we're going to \$64.

Would the Greens put their cards down, and anybody who wants to say no, hold up their red card, please Any abstaining?

We had 13 votes for the positive yes to raise to \$64, four for no, one abstaining. That means the subs now have raised to \$64 for the next financial year. Thank you very much.

Jude Tosh, President: If there is no further business, I now declare the 40th Annual Meeting of the New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Incorporated closed at 2.42pm. Thank you very much for your time and participation.

Thank you

Approval for distribution is given.



Jude Tosh
President

New Zealand Cake Decorators Guild Inc.