

In Harmony

Newsletter of the
Adelaide Male Voice Choir

No.1 SPRING 2001

Hello and Welcome

This is the first "new look" newsletter for the choir and Friends of the Choir and we hope to bring you news of all our concerts and social functions at which we would be pleased to welcome you.

We stress that we are always looking for articles of interest, comments about our concerts and photos.

On Sunday, 14th October at 2 pm, the choir holds its ANNUAL CONCERT in the FREEMASONS HALL, NORTH TERRACE, and this promises to be an exciting event, with Eddie Kriek again playing piano solo and we are joined this year by Woodwind Ensemble from Elder Conservatorium. And to add to this line-up will be one of our favourite soloists - Tasso Bouyessis. He will actually be performing solos with choir backing and singing along with the choir in the other songs. This year the choir is combining with the LODGE ST DAVID and part of the revenue received from this concert will go towards the MEDICAL FOUNDATION that the Lodge supports. The choir will be singing songs from around the world and the cost of tickets for this concert are very reasonable at \$12, concession \$10 and school-age children \$6.

During the rest of this year the choir will be busy planning for next year's concerts and social occasions. At this stage the choir is planning to have three major concerts, a tour of the South-East, maybe a trip to Port Pirie and eight

smaller concerts at retirement villages and church groups, etc. If any of the "Friends of the Choir" would like a concert for another group to which they belong - just ask and if we can fit it in, we will.

The choir's two major functions at the end of the year are an adjudicated "Solo Night", where some members of the choir perform in front of their peers, wives, partners and friends. It is a very light-hearted function - not taken too seriously, and after there is a supper.

The winner of the solo competition also has to sing at the Annual Christmas Dinner, which this year is being held at the Adelaide Sailing Club, West Beach on Friday, 14th December (7 for 7.30 pm). The cost of this function is \$35.00 per head and any of our friends are welcome. Please contact JOHN LAWSON on 8276 4229 or COLIN STYLES on 8270 2628 for bookings.

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President:
Mr John Lawson

Vice-President:
Mr Colin Styles

Treasurer:
Mr John Winnall

Conductor/Director of Music:
Mr William Shaw

Secretary:
Mr Colin Styles
4 Petrel Court,
Flagstaff Hill, 5159
Tel.: (08) 8270 2628
Email:
jstyles@dove.net.au

Accompanist:
Mr Edward Kriek

Vice Patrons:
Miss Gladys Bailey OAM
Mr Ray Brown,
Mr Doug Karran,
Mr Len Turner,
Mrs Connie Tremethick,
Mrs Genty Stevens,
Mrs Myfanwy James.

Practices are held every Monday at 7.45pm to 9.45pm. in the Hall at rear of Church of Christ 100 Grote Street, Adelaide

Low-down on Bill Shaw

He chose the hymns himself and often played request numbers for his class-mates. He probably played that hymn "for those in peril on the sea" on the morning of the swimming carnival!

By chance, ended up playing organ at the weddings of Hale 'old boys'. The regular church organist had fallen ill, and the Headmaster said to Bill "You can play the organ, can't you?" "I dunno" said Bill, "I never tried". "That's settled then", said the Headmaster. Bill had a one-hour practice, and from then on played regularly at weddings. Very lucrative - 10 pounds per wedding! He bought his pride and joy - a 1932 Riley - with the money he earned from playing for weddings.

Was a very keen (and successful) sportsman in his schooldays - hockey, football, rowing, athletics. Captained several of the sporting teams, was stroke of the rowing crew. Captain of the debating team and editor of the school magazine.

During his University student days, Bill played piano in pubs. Also quite lucrative, though one of the owners wanted to pay him in beer! Played popular music, rock-n-roll, etc.

He majored in Music and in Drama in

his University degrees. Also learnt piano and singing at the University and privately. Was very involved in performing arts at the University - theatre and music.

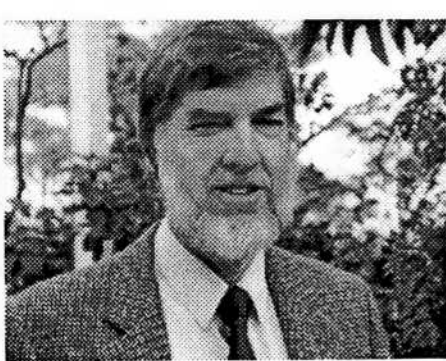
Sat next to Daina in German classes at the University - she was the best student and he had never prepared his homework, so he could look on at her work!

At University, Bill was responsible for back-stage work for a German play in which Daina was the leading lady. For a street scene in Vienna, he had rigged up an elaborate lantern, which Daina demolished on the first night with a sweep of her enormous hat! The audience clearly heard his expostulations from behind the scenes and was in no doubt as to his opinion of the leading lady!

Bill has always been very involved in community music making for all ages. Did a lot of work for CATS (Children's Activity Time Society) in WA, presenting programs and courses for young children, and has conducted various choirs, bands, ensembles and orchestras for participants of all ages and for both professional and amateur levels.

Bill and Daina have three sons, two of whom regularly attend the choir's major concerts (the other one has a little too far to come - London).

Bill recently retired from his demanding position at Woodville High School and is now able to devote more time to gardening and gourmet cheffing and, of course, the choir.



Bill Shaw is the Conductor and Director of Music for the Adelaide Male Voice Choir and has been since 1985 and in all that time has rarely missed a performance, practice or committee meeting, so we thought it about time we told you a little about him and his exploits.

He left home at the age of 3 in pursuit of music!






Actually, he toddled off after a Salvation Army band, which had been playing in front of his home, and was found by his distraught parents some time later several streets away and happily absorbed in listening to the band.

Learnt piano from the nuns at the little local convent - Sister Stanislaus and Mother Domenic. The exams were held at another convent, which reportedly had a grand piano, but the little pupils never got to play on it - they weren't even allowed to see it!

Attended Hale School in Western Australia and played the hymns for the school assembly every morning.



*come and
join us!*
don't just sing under the shower!

-  Choir Practice Monday evenings (with some extra practices before big concerts).
-  Concerts, between 10 and 12 a year in the metropolitan area and country SA.
-  Social gatherings such as Dinners, Christmas Dinners, mystery trips, barbecues, etc.
-  Solo contest between members (those wishing to compete) towards the end of each year.
-  SPECIAL CONCESSION RATE FOR STUDENTS OF \$10 PER YEAR FOR FIRST 2 YEARS.

Phone 8277 2661, 8276 4229, 8353 6359

CHOIR SECTIONAL LEADERS at all our rehearsals and concerts are

- 1st Tenors - Kevin Fisher,
- 2nd Tenors - John Lawson
- 1st Basses - Colin Styles
- 2nd Basses - Ian Milbank

ATTENDANCES AT REHEARSALS AND CONCERTS

Currently we have 37 choir members listed on our roll and we average around 29 at weekly rehearsal. Sectional Leaders should always be informed if a member knows that they are going to be absent at a future rehearsal or concert as this helps with planning.



Other choir duties

Denis West ably performs the role of Librarian and sorts, catalogues and files all our printed music. Bill Brooker is our Assistant Librarian and together with Denis they undertake the responsibility of issuing all charts currently being rehearsed and performed. Members are urged to carefully maintain all charts in their rehearsal and performance folders and to return



any music that is no longer being performed. Recently Denis has been away overseas on leave and Bill Brooker with help from Steve Wellington has done a very good job of maintaining the position of librarian. Also David Evans has agreed to take over the role of Concert Marshall which came about following the death of Jim Follett.

Sick List

Among the many suffering from various winter ills, Frank Fantone and Charlie Gamba have succumbed to something more serious. We wish them both well and hope that they will be able to come back to the choir soon.

Suggestion Box

Your committee is always looking for suggestions on how to improve the workings of the choir, etc. and a Suggestion Box is put out every Monday evening for this purpose.



"What's this Taxidermist's address doing in here?"

New Members

Since the beginning of the year we have welcomed the following new members to our ranks-

Neville Roach
Max Meaney
Peter Daughtry
Brian Cowell

At the moment there are a few vacancies in some sections of the choir and advertisements are

placed in the print media from time to time. It has been found in the past that the issuing of a personal invitation is the most successful way of finding new members. Choir members are therefore urged to invite anyone who has the potential to become a new member in our choir to come along to a rehearsal and speak to our musical director about joining us.

The Adelaide Male Voice Choir



in co-operation with
Lodge St. David
No. 129 SAC
present



at our

ANNUAL CONCERT

with special guest artists
Edward Kriek (piano)
Tasso Bouyessis (tenor)

Woodwind Ensemble from Elder Conservatorium

at the Freemasons Hall, North Terrace, Adelaide
Sunday, 14th October, 2 pm

Conductor: William Shaw Accompanist: Edward Kriek

Tickets \$12, concession \$10, school students \$6

Phone 8276 4229, 8353 6359, 8270 2628



The Committee of Management

A monthly meeting of the committee is held throughout the year and recently these have taken place on a Saturday morning. The next one will be on Saturday, 21st September. As well as the office holders mentioned on the front cover of this newsletter the committee also comprises our Musical Director, Bill Shaw and elected members, Kevin Fisher, David Evans, Ian Milbank and Jean Pierre Rival.

Our schedule of Concerts for 2001 has already passed the half way mark and our performances, so far, have met with considerable success. We have ventured to the near country (Milang) and had a major performance in both the Pilgrim Church and Freemasons Hall, North Terrace as well as at a number of retirement villages and churches throughout the metropolitan area. As is our tradition, we have sung at the Cross of Sacrifice on Anzac Day and performed a bracket of songs at both St. David's Masonic Lodge 75th Birthday Celebrations and the Annual Cota Concert in the Adelaide Town Hall. In addition there has been a successful picnic and quiz night.

Tapes of Concerts

Annual Concert tapes can be obtained from the Treasurer. There is usually a reduced price for tapes of concerts prior to the most recent one. Tapes are on sale whenever we perform, so please remind your friends that they are available for purchase on these occasions.

Special General Meeting

At the Special General Meeting on the 13th August members indicated their willingness to consider a future trip to the country, possibly to the South East of the state, with a number of concerts planned including one at Mt Gambier. The committee still has to evaluate all the questionnaires that were returned but generally, it seems, that members are happy with the way things are, i.e. 10-12 small concerts a year and three major ones and a country trip.

Most importantly there were a number of members willing to speak up at the meeting and offer suggestions on directions the choir

might take to further improve our image in the community. These were very helpful and were discussed at length in committee.

Choir uniform and new logo

A range of options have been considered by the COM for coming up with a different uniform for daytime concert performances. The aim is to have both a less formal look and to be much more practical in regard to hot weather. As well, the committee has adopted a new logo (seen at the front of this newsletter) for the choir and ordered items of clothing such as caps, T-shirts etc. with the new logo printed on them. These will be available for sale to members, their families and to friends of the choir.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

OCTOBER

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|------|----|---------|---|
| Sat. | 6 | 7.30 pm | • CONCERT IN AID OF LEGACY WIDOWS in Immanuel College Auditorium, Novar Gardens |
| Sun. | 14 | 2.00 pm | • ANNUAL CONCERT for the public in Freemason's Hall, North Terrace, Adelaide. |
| Sun. | 21 | | • CHOIR PICNIC - Time and place to be announced. |

NOVEMBER

- | | | | |
|--------|----|---------|--|
| Sun. | 11 | 2.00pm | • CONCERT FOR MEMBERS OF RETIREMENT VILLAGE AT MASONIC HOMES, 91 Diagonal Road, Somerton Park. |
| Mon. | 26 | 7.45 pm | • ANNUAL SOLO COMPETITION at Grote Street, Church of Christ. |
| Thurs. | 29 | 7.30 pm | • CONCERT FOR MEMBERS OF LUTHERAN RETIREMENT VILLAGE at 24 Avenue Rd, Glynde. |

DECEMBER

- | | | | |
|------|----|---------|---|
| Fri. | 14 | 7.00 pm | • ANNUAL DINNER for members, partners and Friends of the Choir at Adelaide Sailing Club, Barcoo Road, West Beach. |
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"Friends of the Choir" Mailing List

Our special "Friends of the Choir" mailing list informs you of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir's Concerts and Functions.

Functions include dinners and other social occasions at which we would be pleased to welcome you.

For details please contact the Secretary

Mr Colin Styles, 4 Petrel Court, Flagstaff Hill, 5159
Tel.: (08) 8270 2628 Email: jstyles-dove.net.au

Please include me on the special "Friends of the Choir" mailing list

Name

Address

Postcode

Phone

Mobile

Email address

