

In Harmony

Newsletter of the
Adelaide Male Voice Choir
No. 4 WINTER 2002

Comaraderie - a strong part of the choir

Patron:
Her Excellency
Marjorie Jackson-Nelson
AC, CVO, MBE,
Governor of South
Australia

President:
Mr John Lawson

Vice-President:
Mr Colin Styles

Secretary:
Mr Colin Styles
4 Petrel Court
Flagstaff Hill 5159
Tel.: (08) 8270 2628
Email:
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Treasurer:
Mr John Winnall

**Conductor/Director of
Music:**
Mr William Shaw

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 Mylanwy James

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

We do enjoy the choir, probably for many different reasons.

It is mainly the common interest of music that brings us together and this loose link is forged into musical harmony by our conductor and enhanced by our accompanist.

This has created a strong sense of friendship in the choir which seems to continually grow.

The South-East trip was another affirmation of this and although it cost each member financially to go on the trip, the social gain far outweighed this.

Other trips are planned by the committee and with the whole choir's support we should be able to move ahead musically and socially.

What we really need in abundance is COMMITMENT, so that when we perform at any of the venues we have a good complement of members there. Our conductor puts the effort in, attending all Monday night and other practices, all concerts, committee meetings and sub-committee meetings, so the least we can do is to support him by being at the concerts we practice so hard for.

Friends

Our list of "Friends" continues to grow and we would like them to make themselves known to members when they attend concerts. There are some other events that "Friends" are welcome

to attend - namely the Garage Sale, the Quiz Night and the Solo Night (all the dates for these are on the back page). Next year in late March we will be holding a Film Afternoon. Just contact our secretary and he will be pleased to let you know any details you may require.

Sponsorship

Everywhere the cost of running clubs is constantly increasing and our choir is no exception. We try to raise funds with events other than performing as a choir because we do not want to raise subscriptions to the point where only a few can afford it. If there is anyone reading this newsletter who could help the choir through sponsorship, we would be very grateful.

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His next change was to take up panel beating with the added chore of building his own home at Seaview Downs. Later he helped build another home for one of his sons.

In 1979 he took a trip to Italy, Europe and Canada and in 1982 another one to Italy, Europe and England (the Italian portions of these trips were happily spent with relations).

Charlie has always tried to instil in his grandchildren his great love of music and between them they play the recorder, lyre and sing. Charlie restored a guitar for one of them to play.

Charlie has always loved singing, being the "Star" of many family functions and in 1989 joined the then Adelaide Glee Club. He later became and was a diligent member of the committee but due to ill-health, which he has to battle for a number of years, he had to resign. June has always supported Charlie and the choir by regular attendance at concerts and helping at our functions.

Charlie was the instigator of our first and very successful bocce picnic at Belair National Park.

Charlie will gladly sing solos (see the report of our trip to the South-East) at our concerts but his favourite venue is the Lutheran Home at Glynde where he is very popular with the audience.

PROFILE

Low-down on Charlie Gamba

young, Charlie used to try and wake them up early Saturday mornings to do their jobs and now his grandchildren do the same to him.

Charlie is a great family man and with June lovingly promotes family values to his children and their families and with June regularly organises gnocci and musical events.

At about this time Charlie changed his occupation and became owner/manager of a corner store at Norwood which kept Charlie and June very busy.

Born in Torino (Turin) in North Italy in 1935 to Vittorio and Benilde Gamba and named Secondo, the traditional name given to second born sons.

He spent most the war years with grandparents in the country town of Mongardino, near Asti.

In 1951, at the age of 16, he migrated to Australia with his parents and younger brother Silvio, following his older brother Giovanni, who came here three years earlier.

He began working as a carpenter with his father and older brother, following in his father's footsteps who had a furniture factory in Italy before the war.





Secondo (Charlie) met June at a dance in the Glnelg Town Hall in 1955. He was married in 1957 and they had three sons - Robert, Barry and Michael.

When these three sons were very

 **Adelaide**
male voice choir inc.

come and join us!

don't just sing under the shower!

-  **Choir Practice on Monday evenings (with some extra practices before major concerts).**
-  **Concerts: between 10 and 12 a year in the metropolitan area and country SA.**
-  **Social Gatherings such as Dinners, Christmas Dinner, mystery trips, barbecues, etc.**
-  **SPECIAL CONCESSION RATE FOR STUDENTS OF \$10 p.a. FOR THE FIRST 2 YEARS.**

Phone 8270 2628, 8276 4229, 8353 6359



Choir on tour *by Colin Styles*

Twenty-eight members of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir and 15 partners travelled to the South East to perform in concerts during the June Long Weekend. The tour centred around performances in Millicent and Naracoorte. Travelling by private car and Flagstaff Hill Coaches (skillfully driven by the knowledgeable Kevin) the group arrived at the Millicent Performing Arts Centre mid afternoon for a practice prior to the performance which was sponsored by the local Lions Club.

Proceeds from Concerts

The Lion's President, Michael Bleby indicated that the proceeds from the Saturday evening's performance would go towards a project dear to the heart of one of our members, Bob Cooter, namely the Infant Hearing Detection Programme.

Sunday's concert, performed in the refurbished Naracoorte Town Hall, was sponsored by the local Rotary Club. The proceeds from this event, we were told by our contact person Glad McTernan, are to go towards the Chaplaincy programme which has been established as a service to the local school students.

Programme

The choir's programme for both concerts highlighted music from

around the world and showcased the rich variety of music available to singing groups.

The choir was joined at both concerts by a vivacious and sparkling guest soloist Kirsten Johnson.

Kirsten, who lives in the Coonawarra district, not only delighted the audiences with her solos but also added an additional depth and quality to the male voices when she joined the choir with selections from Schubert, My Fair Lady and Les Miserables. Choir members Kevin Fisher and Ian Hunt, who sang complementary solos, were well received by the audiences.

Social Events

The trip gave choir members, and their partners a great opportunity to get to know some of the other members of the choir a little better away from the atmosphere of practice nights. This was in itself a good bonding exercise.

Besides this the trip was not all practices, sound checks and performances. The spontaneous humour and song came to the fore at our final get together dinner in Naracoorte was very enlightening. Some of the well known story tellers - including by then the well accepted, loquacious bus driver



Kevin set the tone for the evening and encouraged some interesting and somewhat surprising performances from some of the so-called quieter members of the choir.

However, no matter how good the story or ditty, they all paled into insignificance when Charlie Gamba, drawing on all his Italian charm, serenaded our Motel hostess (brave man that he is - not only was Charlie's wife present but also mine host - amazing what some people can get away with).

Our hostess obviously enjoyed the attention and let her husband know the attention she required from him in the future.

All the choir members and their partners who were able to join the tour thoroughly enjoyed the experience and would like to express their deep felt thanks to Bill Shaw for his organisation and leadership and to Eddie Kriek for his ability in getting us through tight musical spots.

Choir members are asking - where next?

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING!

by David W. Evans

After a very successful concert tour in the S.E. and a very lively final dinner in the Naracoorte Motel all good things must come to an end. So on Monday morning being first to have our luggage in the coach and ready

to have breakfast, I made that final check of the important items that I should have in my pockets. I had a vague recollection of tossing the key ring with all our keys from our house and from the car into the case on Saturday. As no one else had loaded up it was easy for Kevin (the coach driver) to unload. After waiting for Rita to go through all our things, we were unable to locate the offending items.

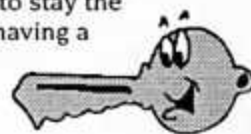
Then the panic really started to set in and told Rita she should have remembered where I had put them. Next thing was to check the suit carry bag and Rita's handbag and cosmetic case, all proved to be negative. Rita even rang the Millicent Motel to see if they had found any keys in our room but was told, sorry but no. The manager promised to have another good check through and would get in touch with us if they turned up.

Trying to get the situation in true perspective, I realised that the next crisis would be when we arrived at Bill and Daina's home (where we had our car parked). All members were very concerned and showed us

where they had their back-up keys. Maybe they also had a similar experience at some time or other.

On arrival at Bill and Daina's home we again started going through the case and the first item I checked was my toilet bag which I emptied and found there was still something in the little side zippered pocket - THE KEYS!!

Daina looked very relieved, I certainly was - maybe she thought we might have to stay the night. So after having a reviving cup of tea, we set off for home.



The Choir's Annual Charity Concert

SUNDAY, 21st JULY, at PILGRIM CHURCH

Each year the Choir raises money through its concerts to aid one charity or another.

Most of this is raised at a concert in July.

Last year it was for the Anti-Cancer Foundation (Tea Tree Gully branch) and this year for the LIONS/CHILD & YOUTH HEALTH PROJECT to detect deafness in all new-born infants in South Australia - in both urban and rural hospitals.

CHANGE OF VENUE

Please note that the venue has changed from that previously advertised and it will now be PILGRIM CHURCH.

The programme will be an exciting one with excerpts from Les Miserables and The Merry Widow and pieces by Beethoven, Offenbach and Gounod.

What will make it doubly exciting will be the four soloists (Tasso Bouyessis, Annamaria Beni, Anthony Waack and Ros Lock) who will be joining the choir in some of the numbers and performing on their own or with another soloist.

Please make the effort to come to this concert for the Adelaide Male Voice Choir and soloists will certainly bring "music to your ears".

The Adelaide Male Voice Choir

brings
MUSIC
to your ears

Come and hear the Choir and Guest Soloists in

Opera at Pilgrim

on SUNDAY, JULY 21st at 2pm

CONDUCTOR - WILLIAM SHAW
ACCOMPANIST - EDWARD KRIEK

Special guest soloists

TASSO BOUYESSIS ANNAMARIA BENI
ANTHONY WAACK ROS LOCK

PILGRIM CHURCH

12 Flinders Street, Adelaide

\$12.00, concession \$10.00

Part proceeds from this concert will be donated to the LIONS/CHILD & YOUTH HEALTH PROJECT to detect deafness in all new-born infants in South Australia - in both urban and rural hospitals.


Adelaide
male voice choir inc.
ESTABLISHED 1884

Phone
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A trip to remember

by Don Prewett (2nd tenor)

In January 1937 at the tender age of 12, my eldest brother, Jack (by some 12 years) paid for my train fare on the "Ghan" to Alice Springs on a three-day journey of 1000 miles. The Ghan (narrow gauge) with mainly freight carriages and a couple of passenger carriages tacked on, left the Adelaide Railway Station, North Terrace, at 9 am on a Thursday morning for the journey to "The Alice".

A young schoolteacher looked after me until we reached Oodnadatta where she taught. There were no sleepers, you supplied your own



Part of the Ghan

food and blankets and the seats were wicker type and faced each other along the length of the carriage. At least we had a couple of antiquated toilets on the train. The scenery was out of this world, mile after mile and more miles of red-coloured sand and flat saltbush plains, and by all accounts we could have been on the surface of the moon.

To heat your can of food (baked beans) and to make a cup of tea you would have to take your billy can down to the steam engine (when it stopped) to fill up with boiling hot water. In our carriage were two rugged stockmen but they were gentlemen. One developed a toothache which gave him a lot of pain and at Oodnadatta he went into the pub, had a couple of drinks and



The Maree Hotel

came back to the carriage with a bottled spirits. His mate had tool bag and next minute he pulled out a pair of pliers. Straightaway the other stockman opened his mouth and his mate inserted the pliers and removed the offending tooth. He opened the window, spat the tooth into the sand and had a quick swig of spirits - operation a success.

A few miles on from Oodnadatta the train stopped to take on water for the engine. Close by was a beautiful waterhole with a small area for swimming.

More red sand and heat as we headed for "The Alice" and by the Saturday afternoon, around 5

pm the Ghan arrived at Alice Springs and most of the town's population were at the landing (no platform, not even today).

There was no regular air service and so the fortnightly arrival of the Ghan was quite an event. Sure enough Jack was waiting for "junior" and then off to the Church of England hostel where I boarded for two weeks.

My brother Jack was the Administrator for the Commonwealth Government.



The War Memorial, Alice Springs



The prison, Alice Springs



Water Storage Tanks, Alice Springs



Emily Gap, Alice Springs

Concert dress and discipline

With the re-emergence of our choir newsletter it is appropriate to advise new members and to remind older members of the importance of our concert dress. The requirements are as follows:

1. DINNER SUIT (preferable) or dark suit.
2. PLAIN WHITE LONG-SLEEVED MONOGRAMMED BUSINESS SHIRT (soon to be supplied to members).
3. RED BOW TIE (provided by the choir).

4. BLACK SOCKS.
5. BLACK SHOES (polished).

NOTES -

The LONG-SLEEVED WHITE MONOGRAMMED SHIRT is essential as in hot conditions jackets may be discarded.

NO pocket handkerchiefs.

NO club badges of any kind.

NO black or other dress studs in shirt.

It is essential that concert dress is completely uniform and JACKETS

MUST BE BUTTONED UP WHEN GOING ON AND OFF STAGE AND DURING PERFORMANCES.

Concert discipline

1. Music should be arranged in order prior to the concert and all surplus music left home.
2. When marching on stage, concert folder is to be held in the left hand at arm's length with the Adelaide Male Voice Choir name on the outside.
3. When in position on stage, members should remain perfectly still held at arm's length.
4. The Conductor will direct when music should be raised and opened.
5. At the conclusion of each number the music must be held motionless until conductor indicates that you can relax.
6. On resuming seats at the completion of each bracket, any re-arrangement of music should be done quickly and not while artists are performing.
7. When programme is completed the choir should march off holding music again in left hand.

NB—All eyes should be on the Conductor as much as possible. As each piece of music is about to be performed members of the choir should remember all the comments the conductor has made about that piece of music and take notice of the highlighted marks throughout the music

GARAGE SALE

TO BE HELD ON

SATURDAY, 21ST SEPTEMBER, 8AM
AT THE PRESIDENT'S HOME
23 LLOYD STREET, ST. MARYS

WE NEED ITEMS FOR SALE

• **NO RUBBISH** •

WE ALSO NEED MEMBERS WHO CAN ATTEND ON THAT DAY TO HELP WITH THE SALE . . . AND NOT LEAVE IT JUST TO A FEW. THERE WILL BE A SAUSAGE SIZZLE.

(Wives, partners are very welcome to come along and help on the day)

Help! Help!

New Members

Since our last newsletter we welcome the following who have joined the ranks of our choir -

Bill Checkley

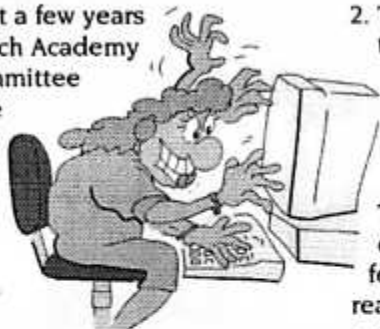
Phil Priest

We always need new members, particularly first and second tenors, and we ask that all present members and friends of the choir keep this in mind and try to encourage relations or friends to join the choir.



The computer – masculine or feminine?

I am told that a few years ago the French Academy set up a Committee to determine whether the word "Computer" should be classed as masculine or feminine.



2. They have a lot of information but they can't think for themselves.
3. As soon as you commit to one, you realise that if you had waited a little longer, you could have had a better model.

The men, however, argued that computers were obviously feminine, again they gave their reasons.

1. No one but the creator understood their internal logic.
2. Even your smallest mistakes are stored in long term memory for retrieval at a later date.
3. As soon as you make a commitment to one, you find yourself spending half your money on accessories for it.

The results were interesting.

All the women on the Committee thought that computers were clearly masculine in gender, for three reasons:

1. In order to get their attention, you have to turn them on.

Why I fired my secretary!

One man explaining to another why he fired his Secretary.

Two weeks ago, he said, was my forty-fifth birthday, and I wasn't feeling too hot that morning anyway. I went to breakfast knowing that my wife would be pleasant and say "Good Morning" and probably has a present for me. And she didn't even say "Good Morning", let alone say "Happy Birthday".

I said, well that's wife's for you! The children will remember. The children came into breakfast and didn't say a word. And then, when I started for the Office, I was feeling rather low and despondent.

As I walked into my Office, my secretary said, "Good Morning, Boss", "Happy Birthday", and I felt a little bit better, someone had remembered.

I worked until noon. About noon she knocked on my door and said, "You know it's such a beautiful day and it is your birthday, let's go to lunch, just you and I." I said, "By

George, that's a great idea, it's the best thing I have heard all day. Let's go." We went to lunch. We didn't go where we normally go but went out into the country to a little private place. We had two martinis and enjoyed lunch tremendously.

On the way back to the Office she said, "You know, it's such a beautiful day, we don't need to go back to the Office, do we?". I said "No, I guess not." She said, "Let's go to my apartment and I'll fix you another martini".



We went to her apartment. We enjoyed another martini and smoked a cigarette and she said, "Boss, if you don't mind, I think I'll go to the bedroom and slip into something more comfortable". I said "That's OK"

I didn't mind at all.

She went into the bedroom and in about six minutes she came out, carrying a birthday cake, followed by my wife and children.

All were singing "Happy Birthday" - and there I sat with nothing on but my socks!

Notes from Committee

There are a number of items that the choir and Friends of the Choir might be interested in that came out of the last Committee Meeting.

GARAGE SALE

There will be a garage sale (please see advertisement on page 6). All members of the choir and wives/ partners are asked to help by donating items for sale and helping on the day. Friends of the choir are also invited to attend and make themselves known to members.

QUIZ NIGHT

This year's Quiz Night will be on Friday, 15th November. This is an enjoyable night run by Ivy and Kevin Fisher and all choir members and Friends of the Choir are invited to "make up a table".

SOLO NIGHT

The format of the Solo Night will be altered this year. There will not be a competition as such but members are asked to still sing a solo or join with other members as a duet or quartet. It will be held in the practice hall more in cabaret form.

We anticipate that an experienced artist will be invited to comment on performances but only to encourage.

Friends of the Choir are invited to attend and along with members are asked to bring a plate of supper.

POSSIBLE TOURS

After the success of the South-East tour this year (see page 3), the committee is considering a tour to the Iron Triangle in 2003 and maybe a tour of New Zealand in 2004



That's not my job

This is the story about
four people, named
Everybody,
Somebody,
Anybody and
Nobody.

There was an important
job to be done and
Everybody was sure that
Somebody would do it.
Anybody could have done
it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about
-hat because it was
Everybody's job.
Everybody thought
Anybody could do it, but
Nobody realised that
Everybody wouldn't do it.
It ended up that
Everybody blamed
Somebody when Nobody
did what Anybody could
have.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

JULY

- Saturday 20th 2.00 pm CONCERT for Senior Citizens at Campbelltown Function Centre, sponsored by Athelstone Kiwanis
- Sunday 21st 2.00 pm CHARITY CONCERT at PILGRIM CHURCH, 12 Flinders Street, Adelaide (Please note change of venue.
- Sunday 28th 2.00 pm CONCERT at St. Paul Lutheran Church at 46 Audrey Ave., Blair Athol.

AUGUST

- ~~Sunday 18th 2.00 pm CONCERT at Woodbridge Retirement Village - CANCELLED~~

SEPTEMBER

- Sunday 15th 2.00 pm CONCERT at Mitcham AFA Bowling Club, 150 Belair Rd., Hawthorn.
- Saturday 21st 8.00 pm GARAGE SALE (see page 6)

OCTOBER

- Sunday 20th 2.00 pm SPRING CONCERT - Venue to be notified.
is 27th " " PARADISE

NOVEMBER

- Friday 15th QUIZ NIGHT
- Sunday 17th 2.00 pm CONCERT at Masonic Homes, 91 Diagonal Road, Somerton Park.
- Thursday 28th 7.30 pm CONCERT at Lutheran Homes, 24 Avenue Road, Glyde

DECEMBER

- Monday 2nd 7.30 pm SOLO NIGHT (see page 7)
- Friday 13th 7.30 pm CHRISTMAS DINNER, Glenelg Golf Club
- Sunday 15th 2.00 pm CHRISTMAS CONCERT - To be notified

"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: coljucl@ozemail.com.au

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

Name

Address

Postcode

Phone

Mobile

Email address

