

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

**President:**  
Mr John Lawson

**Vice-President:**  
Mr Colin Styles

**Secretary:**  
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Flagstaff Hill 5159  
Tel: (08) 8270 2628  
Email:  
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**Treasurer:**  
Mr John Winnall

**Committee:**  
Denis West (librarian)  
Ian Milbank, David  
Evans, Kevin Fisher,  
Jean-Pierre Rival

**Director of Music:**  
Mr William Shaw

**Accompanist:**  
Mr Edward Kriek

**Promotions and  
Concert Bookings  
Committee:**  
Mr David Evans  
Mr Andrew Dickson  
Mr Ian Hunt  
Mr David Duffner

**Concert Manager:**  
Mr Neville Roach  
Tel: (08) 8332 1895

**Vice Patrons:**  
Mr Ray Brown  
Mrs Myfanwy James  
Mr Doug Karran  
Mrs Margaret Lambert  
Mrs Genty Stevens  
Mr Len Turner

**Life Members:**  
Mr Ray Brown  
Mr Robert McLeay

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 St, Adelaide

## Phew!

Yes, the year has finished with a crescendo. It has been very hectic over the last two months or so and it has been both exciting and tiring for the choir.

### MILANG

Our first concert after the last newsletter in September was at Milang, a concert we always enjoy and where we are made to feel most welcome.

### A CELEBRATION THANK-YOU

Sunday, 10th October, was a great success for the choir and truly celebrated the 120th Anniversary of the Choir's foundation.

Our thanks are due to Her Excellency, Marjorie Jackson-Nelson, AC CVO, MBE, for kindly accepting the Choir's invitation to attend the concert and for cutting the celebration cake in the concert interval.

And we are very grateful to the Band of the South Australia Police, Catherine Lambert and Tasso Bouyessis and to all who contributed to the afternoon's success.

Thanks also to the audience, particularly the Friends of the Choir, who support us so faithfully. There are over 200 Friends of the Choir now and the list is growing constantly.

### OPERA DINNER

Another successful Opera Dinner was held at Regency Park Catering College and we are indebted to Fernando Delgado and his team for organising this at the restaurant.



Deborah Caddy and Tasso Bouyessis performed their solo parts to the usual high standard and we look forward to hearing more from them next year.

Thanks to all those who helped in any way to the success of the evening.

*Continued on page 2*

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WEB ADDRESS: [amvc.org.au](http://amvc.org.au)



# Robert Benjamin Cooter,

MBBS, FRACP, FAMA, AM

1st Tenor

Bob was educated at Adelaide Boys' High School. He graduated at the University of Adelaide in 1951. Practised as a GP at Woodville, Nuriootpa, Port Augusta and Sefton Park from 1953-1992.

In 1966, while practising at Port Augusta, he discovered for the first time in Australia, living amoeba in the spinal fluid of a 10-year-old boy with amoebic meningitis. He directed researchers to the source of infection in the pipeline water supply to the northern towns of SA, based on local GP research of environmental factors and case histories of several victims.

During his practice at Port Augusta he found the work most interesting as it was a diverse rural practice. He and his three colleagues performed major surgery, including caesarean sections, bowel resections, gastrectomies which these days GPs are not allowed to perform. The practice performed over 1000 major and minor operations and about 400 confinements per year.

Bob is highly regarded by his profession because of his involvement in many aspects of rural practice, in the South Australian Post Graduate Medical Foundation Association. He worked with this organisation for 20 years, organising and participating in medical conferences and tours of rural areas by intensive care, obstetrics and other specialist teams, education rural GPs in emergency medicine, severe trauma, obstetrics and neonatology. He was Chairman of the Board of this Association in 1995-96.

His present commitments and appointments include 11 years involvement in locum work, relieving country doctors and also urban colleagues.

He is a member of the Locum Panel of Rural Doctors Workforce Agency of SA and Past Chairman and current adviser to the Central Committee for

Delineation of Clinical Privileges for Rural Hospitals in SA.

He has a long history of service to the Royal Flying Doctor organisation as medical officer for the service at Port Augusta, member of the Council of the Central Section for 22 years and President of Central Section, 1985-88. Awarded life membership after 32 years service.

He was in-training and recruiting country doctors as Chairman of Rural Health Committee of AMA (SA Branch), and was involved in

creating the Royal College of GPs Training Programme of Rural Practice and instigated the National Programme.

He was awarded a Fellowship of the AMA for work in Rural Medicine and created a Rural Locum service in AMA in 1976. He is a Life Member of the Rural Doctors' Association of SA.

Bob has had 20 years involvement in medical education, organising medical conferences and tours of rural areas by specialist teams.

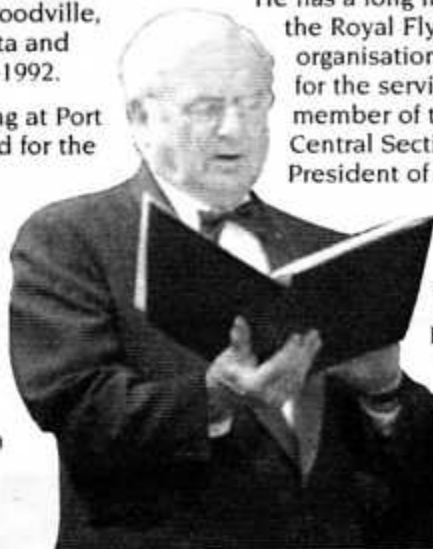
He was Chairman of the Post-Graduate Medical Board, 1995-96.

He has been a member of Lions International since 1966, encouraging medical screenings for glaucoma, diabetes and hypertension and mammography for detection of breast cancer in rural women.

Bob was chairman of a Presidential Task Force in Aboriginal Health for the Royal Australian College of GPs nationally. He is a councillor of the Cratio Facial Foundation, a past board member of MedicAlert and Chairman of the Medical Advisory Committee.

He was awarded the Order of Australian in 1995 for services to medicine in rural area, to the RFDS and for community service through Lions International.

He found his work in Port Augusta



Continued from page 1

## GOOLWA

As my wife and I moved to Goolwa earlier this year, we were delighted that the choir could perform there in November in aid of the local St. John Auxiliary.

Both Tasso Bouyessis and Edward Kriek performed solos and the audience were enthusiastically responsive and many have expressed to me since how much they enjoyed the afternoon. They are looking forward to hearing from the choir again next year.

## CHRISTMAS DINNER

The choir really looks forward to this event each year and it is now the third year that we have held the dinner at Glenelg Golf Club.

## NEW ZEALAND

A separate sheet is enclosed showing what will be happening on the trip as arranged by the travel agent (side 1) Melody Music.

On side 2 is an email sent by Stu Milne of Nelson (NZ), who is very involved with choirs there. He will be accompanying our group and arranging all the concerts.

As the first payment isn't due until the end of January (10%), choir members and friends can still apply to join the group.

## CAROLS CONCERT

As mentioned in the last newsletter the choir has been invited by the Band of the South Australia Police to sing at their **Annual Carols Concert** at the Police Academy, Largs North, on **Friday, 17th December at 7.30 pm.**

both satisfying professionally and socially. Belonging to the Port Augusta Music and Arts Club was an exciting experience. With five conservatorium-trained singers and a large mixed choir of 70 singers, his prowess as a singer evolved. He was a tenor soloist in such items as The Mikado, Lilac Time and Naughty Marietta and in the oratorios Messiah, Crucifixion and Olivet to Calvary.

Bob is married to Marie, has five daughters and 11 grandchildren.





# 120th Anniversary Concert



The choir's celebration of its 120th anniversary on 10th October was a wonderful success with plenty to remember.

Her Excellency the Governor of South Australia kindly accepted our invitation to attend.

The Honourable Stephanie Key, MP, kindly attended on behalf of the Premier, John Bannon.

The concert started with the Band of the South Australia Police playing the fanfare and salute and straight into four items.

The choir then performed six items with solos by Catherine Lambert and Tasso Bouyessis. The choir's assistant conductor, Johnathan Bligh, guided it through *Aura Lee* without a problem. Bill Shaw guided it through the rest.

This section was followed by some wonderful solos by Catherine and Tasso.

The Adelaide Light (a small group formed from members of the main choir) then performed four numbers which brought the programme to the interval.

At the end of the interval the Governor cut the anniversary cake (picture, front page) and the audience joined in singing "Happy Birthday" to the choir.

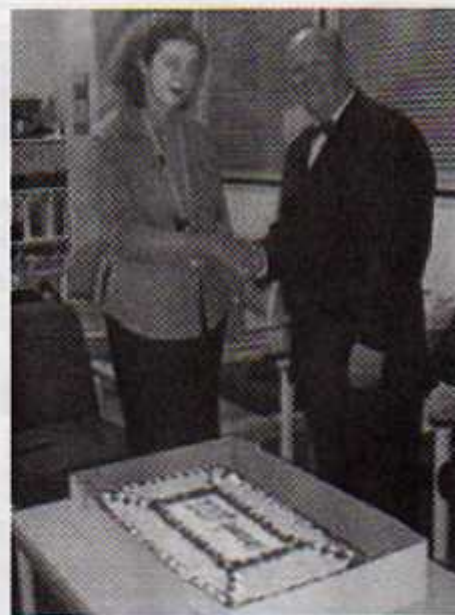


The choir started the second half with three items and solos again by Catherine and Tasso. Johnathan again conducted one of the pieces.

Catherine and Tasso followed with some wonderful solos.

The Police Band performed their second group of pieces and everyone finished off the afternoon singing excerpts from *Phantom of the Opera*.

After all this the choir moved to the Drill Hall where we had some afternoon tea and the Birthday Cake. Two cakes were baked but we didn't need the second one, so one of our choir members, Ian Hunt, took it to the Women's and Children's Hospital (pictured right), where I am sure it received the proper attention. Yum!







# Grandparents . . . babies to the right of us, babies to the left



## Imogen

On 26th July 1996, the choir sang at this couple's wedding at Trinity Church, Glenelg and now we are delighted to report that they have a baby girl, Imogen Saphir, born on 1st November, weighing 8 lbs. The picture shows Imogen with Alison and Tim Shaw.



Proud grandparents are Pam and Roger Wicks and the choir's conductor and his wife, Bill and Daina Shaw. Bill and Daina will now have both their granddaughters with them for Christmas.



## Liam

AT LAST, Rita and David Evans are delighted to announce the arrival of our grandson, Liam James, born on the 13th October at 12.20am. at the Tanunda Memorial Hospital to the very proud and happy parents Danielle and Jim Nixon. Liam's birth date is incidentally the same date as

Danielle's great grandfather, which would have pleased him very much.

Rita, the very ecstatic Nanni, is holding Liam just very shortly after his entry into our wonderful world.

Danielle, Jim and Liam are living in Gawler so it is very close to Rita and David Evans' home at One Tree Hill, so visiting can happily be frequent.



## Sophie . . .

is the daughter of Dino and Margaret Conti (full name Sophie Eva Louisa) and she was born on 22nd November in Darwin Maternity Hospital and weighed 11 lb, 7 1/2 oz. Now proud grandparents David and Rini Conti have a lot of travelling to do with

grandchildren in Sydney and Darwin.

## Regency Park Opera Dinner



Deborah Caddy



Tasso Bouyessis

Pictures from the dinner (more on page 7)





# Christmas Greetings

The Adelaide Male Voice Choir wishes its Patron, Vice-Patrons, Friends and all the audiences the choir has sung to this year a

Very Happy and Safe Christmas and a Bright and Prosperous New Year

The choir hopes that they can bring some enjoyment to you next year.



## The Milang Odyssey

or the body willing but the car was not

Up at 6.30 am, looking forward to the concert, weather sunny. Set off, got within 200 metres of the tunnel - smell of burning and loss of traction. Clutch? Two hours wait for the RAA for confirmation - thumbs down, resulting in another hour wait for the tow truck.

As the crows began to circle overhead and wondering how many of the cars driving by contained my fellow choristers, my only companion was Post No. 981.

Finally back home, less \$76 tow fee. Not a lot to sing about, eh!

Eddy (2nd tenor)

## The Prison Quartet

While I was in a church, the pastor announced that their prison quartet would be singing the following evening. I wasn't aware there was a prison in the vicinity and I looked forward to hearing them.

The next evening I was puzzled when four members of the church approached the stage. Then the pastor introduced them.

"This is our prison quarter," he said, "behind a few bars and always looking for the key."



## ARPA

We know you can sing (we've heard you) but do you think you can act?

The A.R.P.A. Drama Group is looking for new members and will make you welcome if you would like to come and participate.

First meeting is on 7th February at the Church of Christ, Mile End.

For further details contact

Isobella on 8297 6724  
or Mary on 8443 6018

## Goolwa concert well received

Courtesy of the Victor Harbor Times

### High praise for choir

What a musical treat was experienced by local folk who attended the concert by the Adelaide Male Voice Choir on Sunday at Goolwa. The concert was to aid the St John Auxiliary.

We heard songs from all parts of the spectrum of the musical wheel. The choir took us on a world journey from the classics to jazz to Broadway to harber shop.

The accompanist Eddie Kriek on piano was excellent, giving several solos. Chopin was very moving; Busy Fingers busy; Rustle Of Spring beautiful.

Visiting tenor Tasso Bouyessis did justice to The

Donkey Serenade, Deep Is The Night and the very popular Nessen Dorme. He was excellent.

All in all an enjoyable afternoon topped off by a country afternoon tea. Thank you St John Auxiliary for the opportunity to see and hear such SA talent without having to go to Adelaide.

Jenny Wheaton,  
Victor Harbor

As mentioned on page 2, the first ever concert by the AMVC was a great success as shown by this letter to the local paper.

## Quiz Night

On Friday, 19th November, the choir held another successful Quiz Night in the RAAF Bowling clubrooms. Although not so well attended as last year, a good time was had by all. Our thanks to Kevin and Ivy Fisher, who, as usual, ran the evening very efficiently, and to John Young, quizmaster, and his young helper.

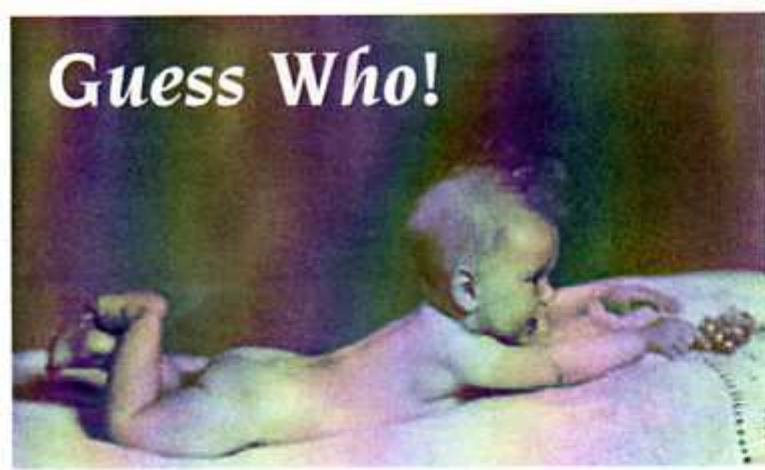
## 80th birthday

On 17th November, first tenor Kevin Fisher, pictured with his wife Ivy, was 80 and on Sunday, 21st he celebrated with a party at the RAAF Bowling Clubrooms. It was a lovely afternoon of music and memories . . . and a few stories.





# Guess Who!



but fairly. Every morning the boys had to have a cold bath, summer and winter, then a run round the block.

There was a choir practice every day, except

Saturday, and he attended church 13 times a week and more during Lent and Advent.

The choirboys used to like funerals more than weddings because they got paid five shillings for funerals and only two shillings and sixpence for weddings.

Every Saturday, he would catch the Underground from Oxford Circus to Uxbridge, changing at Baker Street, then a bus to Denham, spending a few hours there before returning later in the day, ready for church on Sunday.

able to contact her and visited her with his wife. She told him that she has all the names of "her boys" in a little black book and for whom she prays every Sunday. She actually started at the choir school the same year as I did.

After his voice broke he became an apprentice in a firm where he eventually met his future wife. He never touched singing again until he joined the Adelaide Male Voice Choir at 51.

In 1955 he was drafted into the Army to do his National Service, serving time in Oswestry, Arsenal and the Isle of Sheppey, nearly going to Egypt during the Suez Crisis (he had all his jabs, but still didn't go - he wasn't sorry).

Soon after being demobbed in 1957, he was married and moved to a little village, half way between High Wycombe and Amersham, called Holmer Green. But it seems he had the wanderlust, briefly moving to St Albans before going to Hastings, where, in 1965, he left England with his wife and two small children on 13th April, arriving in Adelaide on 16th April.

Although staying in South Australia, he did, for about six years, leave the trade in which he was apprenticed and became the supervisor, with his

Born four years before the second world war he attended a small school in Gerrards Cross, England.

His mother received a call from the headmistress and expecting the worst (can't think why), was informed (much to her surprise) that he had a nice voice and suggested that his mother might like to do something about it.



*Being watched over by his sister, Jean, while on holiday.*

Not long after he attended an audition to become a chorister at All Saints' Choir School, Margaret Street, London. He was auditioned by Dr. Lloyd Webber, the organist and choirmaster, and was fortunate in being accepted.

One of the famous old boys of the school was Laurence Olivier. When he did a documentary on his life on television he mentioned and showed the choir school.

There were just 15 boys in the school, which was run very strictly



*At All Saints Choir School between 1946 and 1950, third boy from the right, back row.*

The last year at the school he became Head Boy.

In 1998, returning to England for a holiday, he found out that the Matron of the school was still alive and living in the Barbican. He was

wife as the matron, of a children's home until, after a change of direction in government policy, large, institutional homes were closed in favour of cottage homes.

In 1986 he joined the AMVC and has been a keen member ever since.





# Have stick . . . will travel

## ENGLAND

*The continuation of an account of a recent holiday enjoyed by Bill and Pearl Gough.*

What struck me immediately seeing the countryside, was the roadside bushes. Hawthorn were in flower, everywhere one looked were flowers, and the fields were so green. It was picturesque.

We made our way to Warwickshire ( Shakespeare Country ) , and it too was as pretty as a picture, and the weather was great. Berkswell, a village with a 12th century church containing my ancestors' (former Lords of the Manor) memorials and burials in the crypt, which is usually only in a cathedral, not a church.

My wife' s niece arranged for us to attend a concert at THE STABLES theatre, a facility organised and supported by the



famous jazz family (Johnnie Dankworth and Cleo Lane). It is run by volunteers, and supports invalid persons who

perform on stage, all are in wheelchairs, and they use keyboards, which are connected to a computer , and allows them to play music despite their handicap, which means they are not restricted by the lack of control of their limbs. Once they are on stage they really enjoy themselves. One man in the centre of the group plays the keyboard by using his TONGUE to press the keys. They all have different parts to perform and do it very well. They have appeared on TV.

The concert lasted for two hours, and was most enjoyable!

Visitors to the UK must try to visit Woburn Abbey to see the beautiful parklands, with its herds of deer and, of course, the abbey itself . The weather on this day was glorious and was just right for such an outing. We also visited a Millhouse restaurant built in AD1061, which of course

was pre-Norman invasion. The river Avon flows nearby which made it very picturesque.

## More from Regency Park



From left to right: Fernando Delgado, team tutor, with Bill Shaw and two of the students.



# WANTED - Urgently

## ***Marketing, Promotions, Publicity Officer***

The Adelaide Male Voice Choir seeks a person from among the Friends (or elsewhere) to fill this position. SORRY IT IS A VOLUNTARY, BUT REWARDING POSITION.

In recent years the choir has gone from strength to strength and the quality and presentation of its music has improved to such an extent that we really do need someone who is skilled at getting a message over to the media and the general public in a planned way.

***Is this you!***

For further information please contact the  
**Secretary, Colin Styles 8270 2628**  
or email [coljud@ozemail.com.au](mailto:coljud@ozemail.com.au).

### ***Friends of the Choir***

Early next year we hope to hold a combined

### **Friends and Solo Night**

and we welcome as many friends as can come along for a social evening with the choir.

## **DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: 2005**

### **JANUARY**

Mon. 31st 7.45 pm FIRST REHEARSAL for 2005.

### **FEBRUARY**

Mon. 7th 7.45 pm ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING and Election of Officers.

### **MAY**

Sun. 1st 2.00 pm CONCERT for Elizabeth Grove Uniting Church, cnr. Harvey and Fairfield Rds, Elizabeth Grove.

### **JUNE**

SUn. 19th 2.00 pm MUSIC FROM HEAVEN, at Pilgrim Church, Flinders Street, Adelaide.

## ***"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: [coljud@ozemail.com.au](mailto:coljud@ozemail.com.au)

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

Name

Address

Postcode

Phone

Mobile

Email address

