

**PATRON:**  
His Excellency  
The Honourable Hieu Van Le AO  
Governor of South Australia

**VICE PATRONS:**  
Peter Goers OAM  
Jeffrey Kong

**PRESIDENT:**  
Colin Styles

**VICE PRESIDENT:**  
David Evans (8288 0808)

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC:**  
William Shaw OAM

**ACCOMPANIST:**  
Edward Krick

**ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR:**  
Harrison Lambert

**SECRETARIAT:**  
George Willcox (*Secretary*)  
(0407 724 584)  
Ian Milbank (*Minutes Secretary*)

**TREASURER:**  
Denis Harper

**LIBRARIAN:**  
Terry Helbig

**COMMITTEE:**  
John Dick (*Asst Librarian*)  
Neville Roach  
David Turner  
John Wear

**CONCERT MANAGER:**  
Neville Roach (8332 1895)

**ALMONER:**  
Bruce Risby (8298 8828)

**LIFE MEMBERS:**  
Myfanwy James  
Margaret Lambert  
Robert McLeay  
Genty Stevens  
Len Turner  
Denis West

Choir practices are held every  
Monday from 7.30 pm to 9.45 pm  
at Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
139 Archer St, North Adelaide

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

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

### Choir Patron

I am delighted to inform you all that our State Governor, His Excellency the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO has accepted our invitation to be our Patron, for the duration of his time in office.

### A significant year

As you, our Friends, know this year we have celebrated our 130th Anniversary. Since 1884, the Choir has taken on the challenge of providing excellent choral music to the people of our State through hard as well as good times. We acknowledge the dedication and tenacity of those who have gone before and accept the challenge to continue to provide programmes of musical excellence to our audiences.

### 130th Anniversary Celebration Concert on 12 October

We were honoured to have our State Governor, the Honourable Hieu Van Le AO and Mrs Lan Le, as our special guests for this concert. We were joined on stage by the Band of the SA Police, which also celebrates its 130th anniversary this year.

Our Music Director, Bill Shaw, has spent many hours over recent years looking into the history of our Choir. This concert provided him with the opportunity to share some of our musical history. During the programme we highlighted a number of songs featured in many a concert in years gone by. I thank our Vice Patron, Peter Goers, for being our MC for the afternoon and our other Vice Patron, Jeffrey Kong, for joining our Accompanist, Edward Krick, to provide a sparkling *four hands, one piano* item for our enjoyment.

Special thanks go to our wives/partners, volunteers and nursing staff from the Women's and Children's Hospital, who assisted in so many administrative and catering activities associated with this most successful event.

### Membership

We have had a number of new members join us this year and we have been very happy to have them come and be active members of our *happy band of brothers*. This augers well for the future of this Choir.

Unfortunately on the darker side of the year a number of our members and their wives/partners have had significant health problems. We hope that 2015 is a better year for them.

### Coming events

"Christmas is coming ... the goose is getting fat" and many other traditional and favourite Christmas songs can be heard flooding into the car park of the Immanuel Lutheran Church on Monday nights. This is a sure sign that Christmas is near. We have several end-of-year engagements, so please see the *Dates for your Diary* on pg 4 for some happy events to round off the year.

### Thanks

I have mentioned many times before that community choirs such as ours do not just happen. It is not simply a matter of men turning up on a rehearsal night and performing at concerts. There are many tasks that need to be done to ensure that we live up to our hard-earned reputation. The willingness of our members to take on additional tasks and to do them to the best of their ability is the cement that helps hold us together so successfully.

I thank our Music Director Bill, our Assistant Conductor Harrison, our Accompanist Ed, our committee members and those Choir members who have taken on additional tasks for the great work they do. Behind the members of the Choir stand our wives/partners, who support us in all we undertake, and we thank them and our group of Friends for their loyal support.

I hope that you have a happy Christmas and that 2015 fulfils some of those things on your "bucket list".

*Colin Styles*



INTRODUCING ALEX BURNEY, a member of the Second Tenor Section of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir. Here in his own words are some delightful glimpses into his life:

Alexander George Burney was born in Adelaide, 1992, the youngest of four children. His childhood was mostly uneventful, with his school days at Heritage College broken by family holidays on the River Murray at Waikerie and Goolwa, and visiting cousins in Lismore and Launceston. He was an avid reader, carting bags of books home from the library and reading at every chance, but also an outdoor boy, a lover of soccer, tree-climbing, tramps along the creek (always bringing home a new staff to add to the pile behind his door) and pretend sword-fights. His pets grew in size as he grew, from fish and mouse families, to a guinea pig, Blackie the Bantam, Noodle the cat and Ellie the Jack Russell... until he developed an asthmatic reaction to small animals and had to give up pet ownership and collect teddy-bears instead.

Alex has always enjoyed music, right from babyhood when he would fall asleep listening to his Mum play the piano, and later when enthusiastically singing along at Sunday School. When he was 7, he decided to teach himself piano, eschewing the help of his Mum (who had taught all the other children), and doggedly working his way through lessons and workbooks. His mum freely admits he long ago passed her ability to teach, anyway! In middle school he took trumpet lessons, and was an active member of both the school choir and the orchestra (accompanying in both trumpet and piano) until he left school in 2009.

A major turning-point in Alex's interest in music was a family Bible Gathering he attended with his parents in 2008. Some of his new friends were keen composers and performers, and he was inspired by them to form a song-writing group when he returned to school, as well as playing and singing some of the new songs he introduced from the Gathering. Their principal highly supported this innovation, and charged them with writing a song to be performed at their Yr12 class graduation. After leaving high school, Alex started a Bachelor Degree in Science at UniSA, but could not see a future for himself in this direction. However, he continued expanding his musical skills, undertaking a number of voice lessons, and completing a certificate in Music Presentation at TAFE.

Currently, he is studying a Bachelor of Education part-time with the Adelaide University, and tutors in Math and English. He intends to pursue an interest in working with children, potentially teaching at Primary School level, but is also open and happy to see where his interests will eventually take him. His social life consists of membership of a number of committees (where he usually gets roped in as musical director), Tuesday Bible and game nights with old school

friends, and Saturday mornings as host of a "Dungeons and Dragons" game, admirably combining Dungeon Master duties with entertaining his adorable and engaging 20 month-old niece.

Alex constantly challenges himself with new music and musical experiences. He frequently provides piano background music and accompaniment at church events, conferences, weddings and special birthdays. He has sung both chorus and soloist parts in a number of concerts, musicals and fundraising events (including pieces from Handel's *Messiah* and Mendelssohn's *Elijah*), at which he is known to reduce both his grandmothers to tears.



### Booking Your Ticket

It was gratifying that our 130th Anniversary Concert was booked out a week before the performance, even though we were using an auditorium that held 328 guests. The response to our advertising was great, but it meant that some regular concert-goers had to be turned away at the door – a situation we regret but one that could not be avoided.

The answer lies in booking ahead to ensure that you have seats reserved for you. We are currently looking at ways in which we can make on-line booking easier for you. Alternatively, you can ring our Concert Manager Neville and reserve seats with him, or speak with a member of the Choir to arrange seats for you. Please book early for future concerts, and be sure of a good seat!

**Catch us at the Adelaide Fringe!!**

We are singing at the Adelaide Fringe in 2015 for the first time. The Choir will be presenting a "Nostalgia" concert including music from the 1920s and 30s, and featuring well-known jazz vocalist Luke Thompson as our soloist. Composers represented in the programme will include Irving Berlin, George Gershwin and Jerome Kern.

**WHEN:** Friday 27 February 2015 at 6.00 pm  
and  
Saturday 7 March 2015 at 6.00 pm

**WHERE:** St Stephen's Lutheran Church Hall  
152 Wakefield St, Adelaide

**TICKETS:** Available from the Fringe Booking website ([adelaidefringe.com.au](http://adelaidefringe.com.au))  
or by phoning Adelaide Fringe (1300 621 255) or take a chance with tickets at the door.  
See your Adelaide Fringe Guide for more details.  
Tickets : \$20

Please note: In keeping with the shorter duration of most Fringe events, this concert lasts approximately one hour, so there is time afterwards to go out to dinner or other shows

**ADELAIDE MALE VOICE CHOIR**

**Celebration Christmas Dinner**

**You are invited to join with the Choir at our Annual Christmas Dinner and to make it a really special celebration in our 130th birthday year**

**Enjoy a relaxed and entertaining evening:  
Excellent three-course dinner  
Good companionship  
Music entertainment  
Fabulous raffle prizes  
and ... a minimum of speeches!**

**Make up a table of eight with family and friends,  
or we can place you at a table with other guests**

**WHEN:** Friday 12 December 2014  
6.00 for 6.30pm

**WHERE:** Glenelg Golf Club  
James Melrose Road, Glenelg

**COST:** \$55 per person  
**Bookings essential (Phone Denis 8278 8922)**

### Dates for Your Diary

<b>November</b>			
Thursday 27	7.00 pm	Concert for Glynde Lutheran Homes	Glynde Lutheran Homes Avenue Rd, Glynde
<b>December</b>			
Monday 8	7.45 pm	Carols Concert with Brighton Secondary School	St Peter's Cathedral North Adelaide
Friday 12	6.00 for 6.30 pm (Bookings essential—contact Denis 8278 8922)	Choir Celebration Dinner	Glenelg Golf Club James Melrose Rd, Glenelg
Tuesday 16	7.00 pm	Concert for Hope Valley Lutheran Homes	Hope Valley Lutheran Homes 1217 Grand Junction Rd Hope Valley
<b>2015</b>			
<b>February</b>			
Monday 2	7.45 pm	Rehearsals resume	Immanuel Lutheran Church 139 Archer St, Nth Adelaide
Friday 27	6.00 pm	"Nostalgia" Concert Adelaide Fringe Festival	St Stephen's Lutheran Church 152 Wakefield St, Adelaide
<b>March</b>			
Saturday 7	6.00 pm	"Nostalgia" Concert Adelaide Fringe Festival	St Stephen's Lutheran Church 152 Wakefield St, Adelaide
<b>April</b>			
Saturday 18	3.00 pm	Investiture of Grand Master Freemasons of SA	Entertainment Centre Hindmarsh
Saturday 25	10.30 am	Anzac Day Service	Cross of Sacrifice King William Rd, Nth Adelaide

These details are accurate at the time of printing, but sometimes dates or venues have to be changed because of unavoidable circumstances. Please check future editions of *In Harmony*, go to our website ([amvc.org.au](http://amvc.org.au)) or ask a member of the Choir. Further concerts and events through the year will be announced as arrangements are confirmed.

### Male Choirs Association of Australia

On Saturday 15 November I attended the concert in Canberra organised by the Male Choirs Association of Australia (of which the AMVC is a member). Titled "Let All Men Sing!", this event brought together about 450 singers from a number of male voice choirs across Australia, for the pleasure of singing a combined choral concert. The guest artists were the Band of the Royal Military College, Duntroon and soprano soloist Sara Carvalho, and the guest conductor was Dr Guy Jansen MNZM.

I had the opportunity of attending two meetings of the musical directors and organisers of the MCAA, and found they were valuable discussion times. There was a determination to work together to ensure the successful future of the organisation and to provide expanded opportunities for men to sing together. New formats and strategies for broadening the outreach of the Association were mooted.

I had fruitful discussions with several of the musical directors about establishing friendly links and visiting opportunities with the Adelaide Male Voice Choir, and I look forward to our continuing future involvement with the MCAA and its members.

Bill Shaw (Director of Music, AMVC)