



# In Harmony

Newsletter of the Adelaide Male Voice Choir  
Number 54 Autumn 2015

**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 Kriek

**ASSISTANT CONDUCTOR:**

Harrison Lambert

**SECRETARIAT:**

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

**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:**

Kevin Fisher OAM  
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****Recent events**

We had an exciting start to our 2015 performance year with our *Nostalgia Concert* for the Adelaide Fringe. Any questions about whether our decision to become part of "Mad March" in Adelaide was a good one were soon dispelled when we saw people streaming through the door of St Stephen's Church Hall and filling the venue, expecting to be taken back to the 1920s and 30s. They had come for a good time and, from the enthusiastic responses we received on both nights, that aim was realised. One of Adelaide's well-known jazz vocalists, Luke Thompson, joined us for the event and added his own special relaxed flavour to the evening. Not only were the concerts a new, exciting and fulfilling venture for us, but they also exposed the AMVC to new audiences. I believe that we provided another and different attraction to some people who would not normally be part of the festivities at that time of the year.

We were privileged to be part of the Anzac Day commemoration service at the Cross of Sacrifice again this year. We deem it an honour to be invited to be part of this ceremony, which means so much to so many of us.

**Coming events**

Recently my wife and I decided to "take some time out" and drive through the Adelaide Hills. We hoped to catch the colours and sounds of autumn and were not disappointed. The reds and golds, and all the shades in between, could not help but remind us what fortunate people we are to live in a land which provides us with so many opportunities to freely enjoy its ever-changing sights and sounds. The autumn scenes reminded us too that winter will soon be here with its own special delights.

**Winter Concert**

In the Choir's winter calendar, the first event will be our Winter Concert "A Sunday Celebration from Operetta and Musicals" on 7 June. We are preparing

and looking forward to this concert, and we know that the programme will bring back many pleasant memories for you. The concert will be held at our new venue, the Burnside City Uniting Church. There is plenty of parking on site and easy access for us all. Please find further details about the concert on page 3 and about booking options on page 4.

**Winter Social Event**

Our special winter social event will be held on 17 July. This year the theme will be "Australiana" and it promises to be great fun. Further details are on page 3.

**Choir Tour**

The Choir is off on a tour to Meningie and Hamilton from August 28 to 30. A small organising group has been formed to look into the arrangements for this, and I thank them most sincerely for the time they are putting into the logistics for this tour.

**Christmas Function**

I know that this seems a long way off, but here we are part way through May already, and it is time to get our plans together. We would really like you, our Friends, to join us for a fun evening on Friday 11 December. Further details are on page 3.

**Sad News**

Davide Conti, a valued member of the Bass Section of the AMVC, died recently. This was Davide's 28th year with the Choir and he never lost his enthusiasm for singing. He will be greatly missed, and our thoughts and sympathy go to his wife Rini and the members of his family.

**Financial Friends**

Just a reminder to those of you who have as yet to renew your annual subscription to do so as soon as possible, so that you can enjoy membership privileges at the 7 June concert.

In conclusion, thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at Burnside and at many of our activities later in the year.

*Colin Styles*

## Meet Donald Macaulay (First Tenor)

I was born in May, 1940, the eldest of 4 siblings, in Auchincloch, a coal mining village, near Glasgow. My father was a native of the Isle of Lewis in the Outer Hebrides. He spoke fluent Gaelic, something I was exposed to but never learned to speak.

As a 10 year old boy soprano I joined the Kirkintilloch Junior Choir. We performed all over Scotland and England. Our conductor, a Church of Scotland Minister, taught us using the tonic sol-fah system. We joined with the Glasgow Orpheus and the Scottish Junior Singers at a concert in Glasgow. A highlight was Sir Hugh S Robertson conducting the combined choirs in his arrangement of 'All in the April Evening', unaccompanied. In 1952 I began piping lessons in the Boys Brigade and joined the Clan Fraser Pipe Band in 1957. The 'Fraser' was a Grade 1 competition band. From May till August, we competed at the Highland Games. Tunes had to be memorised and we had to listen!

After completing High School I became an Apprentice Draughtsman in a local Cast Iron Foundry. I was committed to attending 'night-school' 3 nights a week for 5 years to obtain a National Certificate in Engineering. Having successfully completed my apprenticeship and studies in 1960, I became an Estimating Draughtsman in a Mechanical Handling manufacturing company in Glasgow.

Some months before Doreen and I married in June 1963 we applied to migrate to Australia. Word that our application was successful came just after our wedding day. In October 1963, on a wet evening, Doreen was selecting books in the local library. To pass the time away I casually scanned through the 'situations vacant' in a bundle of newspapers on one of the desks. An advert for draughtsmen with BHP in Whyalla South Australia caught my eye. I immediately sent off an application. Interviews and medicals were completed in Glasgow. We accepted a 2 year contract just before we set off for Australia. Having a job and a house waiting for us was a real bonus. Our journey began on the overnight train from Glasgow to London, no happy memories there. We left Southampton with approximately 1900 passengers on the 19<sup>th</sup> of May 1964 on board the T V Fairstar. Watching the gap between the wharf and the ship gradually increase made us ask 'what have we done?' No turning back now! Previously known as the Troop Ship Oxfordshire the vessel had been completely transformed in Holland for the lucrative migrant run from Britain to Australia. The Fairstar became one of the popular 'fun ships' cruising Australia and the Pacific Islands. We enjoyed the first part of our journey through the Bay of Biscay, past the Rock of Gibraltar into the Mediterranean for a brief stop at Port Said. On through the Suez Canal and Red Sea to the Port of Aden. Seeing that landscape for the first time reminded me of the pipe tune 'The Barren Rocks of Aden'. The 12 days from Aden to Fremantle were a nightmare! Battered by a monsoon we rolled and pitched our way across the Indian Ocean. Passengers were sick, dining rooms were almost empty and the bars were closed. Fremantle was a very welcome sight. A short train trip to Perth and the lovely Kings Park restored our spirits. Later that day we set off through the Great Australian Bight for Adelaide.

We berthed at Outer Harbour on 16<sup>th</sup> of June, 2 days after our 1<sup>st</sup> wedding anniversary. The final leg of our journey was on a DC3 to Whyalla. We moved into rental accommodation, provided by the Housing Trust. Mitchell Street, Whyalla West was to be our 'home' for the next 2 years. I think the landscape from Mitchell Street contained nothing but saltbush between us and Iron Knob. Quite a change from Glasgow. I worked in the Shipyard and Rolling Mill Drawing Offices. Within a week of arriving in Whyalla I was appointed Pipe Major of the City of Whyalla band. I drove a taxi, part time, to buy a new set of bagpipes.

To gain more experience we spent the next 18 months in Mannum, where I worked with David Shearer as a Design Draughtsman. I answered the 'call of the pipes' joining the John McDouall Stewart Memorial Pipe Band. I knew every turn and pothole on the Mannum/Chain of Ponds/Adelaide Road. Mid-week practices and private lessons and engagements made sure of that!

We purchased our first home in Largs Bay in 1968.

The Electricity Trust of South Australia became my employer for the next 26 years. As a Draughtsman/Technical Officer I became very familiar with Stobie Poles and the major Transmission Lines around the State.

I retired from ETSA in 1994 and spent the next 10 years working part time from home on the computer. I prepared drawings of 'in-line' weighing equipment. I also prepared drawings for Seed Cleaning Installations.

We really appreciated the opportunities we've had in South Australia. I've enjoyed full time employment since 1964. I was able to change employment when we felt it was best for us.

I served 10 years on the Board of Management of the Le Fevre Community Hospital, as a "community representative". I was Chairman for the last 5 years until the hospital closed.

In the early 90s I formed and conducted the Le Fevre Combined Churches Choir on the Peninsula. The choir was made up of folk from every denomination. My daughter, Linda, was the accompanist. For just over 12 years the choir took part in inter-denominational combined church services on the Peninsula. I was also a member of The Woodville Choir during this time. In December 1999, The Woodville Concert Choir presented Handel's *Messiah* with the Unley Chamber Orchestra in the Woodville Town Hall. I had the privilege of singing 'Comfort Ye' and 'Every Valley'.

We moved from Largs Bay to Semaphore in 1991. I've been very happily married to Doreen for 52 years. We have 4 children, 3 grandchildren and recently became great-grandparents. I had major by-pass surgery in The Royal Adelaide Hospital on Melbourne Cup Day in 1981. Just over 3 years ago I had a pacemaker implanted to regulate my pulse. This was replaced last year with a defibrillator.

I joined the AMVC because my wife read an article in the CO-TA magazine and recognized Bill from his time at Woodville High School. Our youngest daughter studied music at Woodville and went on the music trip to New Zealand. I'm glad Doreen gave me the push I needed to start singing again. I enjoy being a member of the AMVC and look forward to the Monday night practices.



**An Adelaide Male Voice Choir Presentation  
Winter Concert**



**A Sunday Celebration from Operetta and Musicals**  
Favourite songs for choir and soloists

**Conductor: William Shaw OAM**  
**Accompanist: Edward Kriek**  
**Soloists: Deborah Caddy (Soprano) and Adam Goodburn (Tenor)**

**Sunday 7 June 2015 at 2.00 pm**

**Burnside City Uniting Church**  
**384 Portrush Road, Burnside**

**Our famous afternoon-tea will be available**

**Tickets \$25/ Concession \$20 / Financial Friends \$15**  
**For booking information please see page 4**

**AMVC Winter Social Function**  
**“Australiana”**

**Join us for a relaxed evening of fun, food  
and entertainment with an  
Australiana theme**

**Put on your swaggie hat, bring along your  
koala mascot and get into the Aussie mood**

**You may even win a prize if you can tell an  
Aussie joke, sing a ditty, or recite a poem!**

**WHEN: 6.30 for 7.00pm on Fri 17 July**

**WHERE: St Joseph’s School Hall**  
**I Birkenshaw Ave, Tranmere**

**COST: \$20 per person**  
**(For Aussie BBQ and Dessert)**  
**BYO drinks**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: Phone Colin**  
**on 8270 2628**

**AMVC Christmas Entertainment & Dinner**

**Time to plan ahead!**

**Our Christmas Dinner is a very popular  
function, so here is advance notice, so you  
can include the event in your social diary.**

**WHEN: 7.00 for 7.15pm on Fri 11 Dec**

**WHERE: Legends Room, The Junction,**  
**470 Anzac H’way, Camden Park**  
**(Plenty of parking; easy access)**

**COST: \$60 per person**  
**(3-course dinner, plus tea/ coffee**  
**and chocolates; beverages can be**  
**purchased from the bar in our**  
**private function room)**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL: Phone Colin on**  
**8270 2628. Make up a table of**  
**eight, or we can place you with a**  
**friendly group.**

**You are warmly invited to join us for a fes-  
tive and enjoyable evening of good food and**  
**quality entertainment in a friendly environ-  
ment. (Our raffle prizes are legendary!)**

### Dates for Your Diary

#### 2015 Season One

##### June

Sunday 7	2.00 pm	AMVC Winter Concert Operetta and Musicals	Burnside City Uniting Church 384 Portrush Rd, Tusmore
Sunday 21 [Please note change of date]	2.00 pm	Pleasant Sunday Afternoon Concert	Masonic Homes Diagonal Rd, Somerton Park

##### July

Friday 17	6.30/7.00pm	Winter Social Function “Australiana” Theme (Bookings essential: 8270 2628)	St Joseph’s School Hall 1 Birkenshaw Ave, Tranmere
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#### Mid-year break in rehearsals

#### 2015 Season Two

##### August

Monday 3	7.45 pm	Rehearsals resume	Immanuel Lutheran Church 152 Archer St, Nth Adelaide
Friday 28 to Sunday 30		Choir Tour	Meningie and Hamilton

##### September

Monday 28	7.45 pm	Recording Session 1	Immanuel Lutheran Church 152 Archer St, Nth Adelaide
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##### October

Saturday 3	12 noon	Recording Session 2	Venue to be advised
Saturday 24	2.00 pm	AMVC Spring Concert with Brighton Secondary School	Jeffrey Kong Auditorium Brighton Secondary School 305 Brighton Rd, Brighton

##### November

Monday 2	7.00 pm	Concert for Adelaide Music Club	Tropeano Function Centre 443 Tapleys Hill Rd Fulham Gardens
Thursday 26	7.30 pm	Concert for Glynde Lutheran Homes	Glynde Lutheran Homes Avenue Rd, Glynde

##### December

Friday 11	7.00/7.15pm	Christmas Entertainment and Dinner (Bookings essential:8270 2628)	Legends Room, The Junction, 470 Anzac H’way, Camden Park
Tuesday 15	7.00 pm	Concert for Hope Valley Lutheran Homes	Hope Valley Lutheran Homes 1217 Grand Junction Rd Hope Valley

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.

#### BOOKING TICKETS FOR OUR MAJOR CONCERTS (Winter Concert on 7 June; Spring Concert on 24 Oct)

We are widening the options available to our audiences for booking concert tickets.



Tickets will be available through Choir members, or by contacting our Concert Manager Neville Roach on 8332 1895.

It is also possible to book on-line through [trybooking.com](http://trybooking.com) (type in AMVC), or by going via the link on our web page [amvc.org.au](http://amvc.org.au), or by using your smartphone to read the QR symbol on the left.

Tickets will also be available at the door.